THE LIFE OF HYDER ALLY:

WITH

AN ACCOUNT OF HIS USURPATION OF THE KINGDOM OF MYSORE, AND OTHER CONTIGUOUS PROVINCES.

TO WHICH IS ANNEXED,

A GENUINE NARRATIVE OF THE SUFFERINGS OF THE BRITISH PRISONERS OF WAR, TAKEN BY HIS SON, TIPPOO SAIB.

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Et quorum pars magna fui. VIRG.

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PREFACE.

IT may be proper to apprize the Public, that the Life of Hyder Ally has already been the ſubject of a Publication in the French language, by a Gentleman of that nation,* who appears to have enjoyed a command in the army of that Prince. I had however proceeded in compoſing the following Hiſtory, as far as the cloſe of the year 1769, before I knew that an attempt of the like nature had before been made. After a diligent and attentive peruſal of a tranſlation of this work, I have found many deficiences to ſupply, many inaccuracies to correct, and many partial miſrepreſentations to confute, and place in their true point of view.

 He

* M. M. L. D. T. General of ten thouſand men in the army of the Mogul Empire, and formerly Commander in Chief of the Artillery of Hyder Ally, and of a Body of Europeans, in the ſervice of that Nabob.

He is particularly inaccurate in ſtating the numbers of the forces of the contending powers; he uniformly diminiſhes the number of Hyder's troops, and augments thoſe of his enemies, that the diſproportion of numbers being leſs, the military ſkill and diſcipline of his hero may appear to greater advantage; a fact which the French author cannot be blamed for endeavouring to eſtabliſh, as he informs us, that Hyder Ally acquired the greateſt part of his military knowledge, from the inſtructions of his countrymen.

Amongſt theſe great maſters in the art of war, I make no doubt but the author would wiſh to be conſidered, as having been eminently uſeful; and he accordingly acquaints us, that he commanded a body of Europeans in the ſervice of Hyder Ally: but as the European troops in the ſervice of any of the Eaſtern Princes, are moſtly compoſed of deſerters, or diſſolute and abandoned characters, we may fairly conclude, that he could derive no great honor

honor from exercising a command over men of such a description.

The many illiberal reflections upon the English nation contained in this production of M. M. L. D. T. can only be considered as the effusions of envy, or the dictates of that national prejudice, which marks a vulgar mind; and were evidently calculated for the entertainment of readers of that class. To the man of sense and liberality they must be disgusting, and appear as proofs of the extreme partiality and narrow prejudices of the author.

Of the following work I shall say nothing more, than that my intention in laying it before the public, is to relate only such transactions as came immediately within my own knowledge, or were obtained from persons competent to give the best information, and I can only lay claim to the confidence of my readers, from a residence of twenty years in India, and having been present in most of the actions between the English and Hyder Ally. I shall therefore present to the public a plain Narrative,

unadorned with Gallic pomp, or prolix descriptions of an Eaſtern Court, the manners of which are already well known in Europe, and in ſome parts too fatally copied.

I have forborne to compare Hyder Ally to Philip of Macedon, or his ſon Tippoo Saib to Alexander the Great. On the contrary, to form a fair eſtimate of theſe characters I have ſubjoined to this work a genuine narrative of the ſufferings of the Britiſh priſoners, taken by their troops at Biddenore, and other places, in the late war; in which thoſe who have already peruſed the French account, and thoſe who may hereafter meet with it, may ſee the characters of Hyder and his ſon in their true light.

THE

LIFE

OF

HYDER ALLY.

ABOUT the year 1728 (Cuttulich Chan) Souba of the Decan, or Governor General, ſent Termamood Cawn, an officer of reputation of the Pattan tribe, to diſpoſſeſs the Nabob Abdul Raſſoul Cawn, of his government of Sirpi, a province bordering on the kingdom of Myſore; this Prince being determined to try the event of a battle with his competitor, aſſembled his forces, and marched to meet him; a battle ſoon enſued, which was fought on both ſides with great obſtinacy,

the action proved decisive, and Rassoul Cawn, the Nabob of Sirpi, was killed. Amongst the number of the slain was Fatty Naick,* the father of Hyder Ally, who was a reputable good soldier, and commanded in the Nabob's service, one thousand peons, (or musket men) and one hundred horse. The body of Fatty Naick was transported to Colar, near one hundred miles from the field of battle, and there interred with great solemnity, after the manner of the Mahometans or Musulmen, he being of that religion.

After this victory, the Pattan Termamood Cawn was received into Sirpi, and acknowledged Nabob of that country.

Fatty Naick left two sons and a daughter, the eldest called Sabas Naick, afterwards Ismael Saib, and the other Hyder Naick, then a boy about ten years of age, who was born at Davanelli, a fort situated between Oscota and Colar. The eldest son and an uncle engaged in the service of the King of Mysore; Hyder Naick for some

years,

* Who according to the custom of his tribe might afterwards have assumed the name of Nadin Saib.

years was moved from place to place, the moſt contiguous to the diſtricts where his uncle and brother ſerved; he was of a bold, enterprizing, tyrannic, and untractable diſpoſition, totally deficient in point of learning, and unable either to write or read, neither could his haughty ſpirit ſtoop to receive inſtruction.

Carraſorree Nanderauze, brother-in-law to the Myſore King, and his duan, or prime miniſter, and general of his army, was one of the many commanders who had aſſembled the troops of their ſeveral maſters, in order to join the ſtandard of the Souba Nazerzing, on his entering the Carnatic, in the year 1750, againſt Muſtapha Jung, who was endeavouring to raiſe an army in order to ſeize the Soubaſhip of the Carnatic, which he claimed under the will of his uncle the former Souba.

Hyder Naick, at this time a ſtout young man, about twenty-five years old, aſſumed the name of Hyder Ally, and being tired of an inactive life, collected about fifty or ſixty matchlock peons, and five or ſix horſemen, and marched to join Nanderauze,

to whom he offered his ſervice, which was chearfully accepted. In the courſe of three or four years, he acquired influence and intereſt ſufficient to raiſe five hundred ſepoys, well armed and equipt with European arms and accoutrements, and a ſmall body of black horſe, about two hundred, with two ſmall pieces of artillery.

In the year 1754 Hyder Ally, in an action againſt the Engliſh Company's troops, and thoſe of the Nabob of Arcot, obſerving the baggage guard of their army quit their ſtation, and that the Tanjore horſe (allies to the Engliſh) were drawn up on the right flank to defend it, detached a body of his horſe to amuſe the Tanjoreens, and with the remainder galloped round the rear, attacked them, and cut moſt of them to pieces, and ſeized, among other things, thirty-five carts, laden with arms and ammunition, beſides ſundry private baggage belonging to officers of the army. This attempt was executed with ſo much conduct and judgement, that the Engliſh found it impoſſible to recover any part of

their

their loſs, which Hyder Ally carried quite off.

This unexpected ſucceſs ſo raiſed his ſpirits and reputation, that on being required to deliver up his plunder to his maſter the King of Myſore, he excuſed himſelf, by an humble aſſurance of his loyalty, and ſaying, that both he and his ſoldiers were ready at all times to riſk their lives in his ſervice.

In the year 1755 he was ordered with three thouſand foot, fifteen hundred horſe, and four field pieces, againſt the Polligars, or Mountaineers in the Myſore country, who had not punctually paid their chout, or tribute into the royal treaſury; herein he ſucceeded to his wiſh, rather by treachery than force, for being unwilling to leave any thing to the chance of war, in a country covered with wood, and only acceſſible by narrow paſſes, or foot-paths, to which his troops were entire ſtrangers, and being poſſeſſed of a great ſhare of cunning, he contrived, under pretence of negotiations, to get ſeveral of their chiefs into his hands, and extorted from them ten or twelve lacks of

of rupees; he then ſent them priſoners to his maſter, the King of Myſore, to whom he paid only half the above ſum, reſerving the other half for himſelf; which inſolent behaviour was much reſented by the King and his Miniſter Nanderauze, who would have been glad of an opportunity to cruſh his growing power, and leſſen the influence he had gained over the troops of his country.

As he ſuſpected ſome attempt to reduce his authority, he judiciouſly ſought every means in his power to eſtabliſh and fix it on a more permanent foundation; the large ſums he had collected, left but few difficulties in his way, and thoſe the future troubles of the Myſore country entirely removed.

In the year 1760, one of the Mahratta chiefs, named Gopelrauze, marched with an army of ten thouſand foot, and twenty thouſand horſe, into the Myſore diſtricts, and blockaded Benguloor, a place well fortified, and of conſiderable ſtrength, in order to add that diſtrict to ſeveral conſiderable conqueſts his nation had formerly made in the Myſore country.

The

The King and Minifter equally jealous and apprehenfive of Hyder's power, and unwilling to truft to the uncertain events of a war, propofed certain terms to the Mahratta chief, which were accepted, and fifty lacks of rupees agreed to be paid, on condition that Gopelrauze would withdraw his forces, and retire home. The King was near putting the laft hand to the treaty, when Hyder, whofe views were more extenfive, and who dreaded nothing fo much as a peaceable retirement, propofed and perfuaded the King to break off the treaty, and permit him to march with the royal army, and give the enemy battle.

He accordingly marched with ten thoufand fepoys, well armed, twenty thoufand irregulars, and five thoufand horfe, and fix field pieces; the enemy, on receiving intelligence of his defigns, marched to meet him, and they came in fight of each other near Chinapatam; both armies being animated with defire of victory, a battle foon enfued, in which the Mahrattas loft three or four hundred men, and retreated to fome diftance. As the battle was not decifive,

and

and the enemy were again united, and ready for action, Hyder began to think of terminating the diſpute in an amicable manner; and the Mahratta chief not ſeeing any likelihood of making new conqueſts, in the face of ſo determined and able an officer as Hyder, propoſed terms of accommodation, agreeing to relinquiſh all his former conqueſts, for the fifty lacks of rupees which the King had before promiſed, and to retire into his own country, where his preſence was then become actually neceſſary, a ſtrong party having been formed in his abſence to diſpoſſeſs him of his authority and command.

Previous to this payment the forts were all delivered up to Hyder, and garriſoned by the King's troops; but, when the money was to be paid, Hyder inſiſted on, and made a deduction of fifteen lacks for the expences of the war.

Gopalrauze, the Mahratta chief, exaſperated at this perfidious treatment, had no other reſource, from the untoward circumſtances attending his affairs at home, but at laſt to conſent and retire with half the ſum. The King, overjoyed at the ſucceſs, but aſtoniſhed

astonished at Hyder's boldness, in the affair of the treaty, was, nevertheless, obliged to confer on him the title of *Bahawder*, and to appoint him General and Commander in Chief, in the room of Nanderauze.

Hyder Ally, suspicious of the intentions of the King and his Ministers, notwithstand-standing the honors conferred on him, labored, with great industry and cunning, to sow the seeds of enmity between them, and succeeded so well therein, that Nanderauze one day left the Divan, and forming a party among his friends, seized the gates and ramparts, and fired several cannon on the palace; the King, upon this, sent a friend of his, who persuaded him to desist from these violent proceedings, and retire for some time to Mysore fort, giving him full authority over the district annexed to it, for his support and pay of his people.

About six months after the Duan had left Seringapatam, the old King, his brother, dyed, and Hyder, who had with great care cultivated the young King's friendship and esteem, gave him suspicions of his uncle's intentions, and accordingly procured

an order for himſelf to march and reduce the fort of Myſore; Hyder, with great expedition, collected the troops and inveſted the place, which being tolerably well fortified, and bravely defended, held out for three months. The Duan finding the place could hold out no longer, from want of proviſions, and ſundry neceſſary ſtores, agreed to deliver it up, and, in lieu thereof, receive the government of Carrour, a diſtrict twenty-eight coſs to the weſtward, and of much leſs value.

Hyder's ſcheme having thus far ſucceeded beyond his expectation, and his enemy being removed to a greater diſtance from court, began to aſſume all the power which his offices of Miniſter, and General, gave him, and, in this ſituation, thought himſelf ſecure from any reverſe of fortune.

The King, upon whoſe authority he daily encroached, and who had already received ſeveral hints to Hyder's prejudice, as well as private accounts from his uncle, the old Duan, of his intentions, began to be jealous, and apprehenſive of ſome dangerous innovation, and brought over to his party and

interest, *Conderow**, a man of a sly disposition, whom Hyder had placed near the King as a spy. This man, who had been Hyder's Duan, and had for some time been disgusted at his haughty behaviour and tyranny, by the King's order, assembled the guards, seized the ramparts nearest Hyder's quarters, and from thence fired several shot upon them; Hyder, surprised and astonished at the secrecy of this attempt, knew not whom to trust, and suspecting the whole military force then in the city to be concerned in this affair, immediately took horse, and fled, with a few of his friends and servants, to the strong fort of Bengalore, then in possession of his uncle, Ibrahim Saib, leaving his wife and family behind.

Previous to this assault, he had detached Mucktom Saib, his brother-in-law, a very bold enterprizing officer, to Pondicherry, with 5,000 sepoys and 3,000 horse; on his road to Bengalore, he sent off an express to this officer, directing him to make forced marches and join him with the utmost expedition. The King, suspecting such an order, had

* Called by the French author, Canero

ſent to Rajah Buntbing, a Mahratta chief, not far from the road Hyder's detachment was to paſs, and engaged him for fifteen lacks of rupees, to march with all ſpeed and intercept it. Accordingly, the Mahratta, with 4,000 ſepoys and 7,000 horſe, ſet out, and was joined on the road by Conderow, whom the King had immediately detached with 5,000 ſepoys and 3,000 horſe, for the ſame purpoſe.

They ſoon came up with Mucktom Saib, who had reached by this time the village of Anchitty Durgham, about twelve coſs from Bengalore; here he took poſt, reſolving to defend himſelf to the laſt extremity, in hopes his brother-in-law Hyder would attempt his relief; Hyder, ſtill ſuſpicious of foul play, durſt not leave Bengalore, but accepted the offer of Meer Pharſula Cawn, a brave ſoldier of fortune, who, on hearing Hyder's ſituation, left Bodicottah, with 50 ſepoys, 10 horſemen, and his elephant, in order to aſſiſt in the preſent dangerous exigency. This man readily undertook to convey a ſupply of ammunition and proviſions to Mucktom Saib, with an eſcort of 1,500 ſepoys and

and 500 horſe; this he bravely attempted, but loſt all his ſtores and proviſions, and with much difficulty joined Hyder's troops, loſing only a few ſepoys and horſe.

A month was nearly elapſed in this ſervice, when the Mahratta chief received an expreſs of the death of their Nanna, or King; this induced him to think of returning to his country, when Hyder, on the ſame intelligence, opportunely offered him three lacks of rupees. This offer, which he accepted, together with the 15 lacks he had already received from the King, accelerated his march back. Hyder having, by this ſtep, gained ſo very important a point, ſecured his authority in Bengalore, and marched immediately with the few troops he could muſter, to attack his moſt inveterate enemy Conderow, his old Duan; Conderow being a man of experience, and ſeeing the neceſſity of a retreat, threw ſome of his force into Kiſtnagurr, Coveripatam, and other fortified places, near at hand, and with the reſt retreated to Seringapatam; Hyder ſoon followed, with his brother-in-law, Mucktom Saib, reducing, in their way,

ſeveral ſmall forts, but for want of proviſions was obliged to march to Nonjudagoda, eight coſs to the ſouth of the capital; here he found it impoſſible to proceed, the whole country being in oppoſition to him, and determined to afford him no ſupplies whatever.

In this ſtrange dilemma, he reſolved on a very bold and dangerous attempt, notwithſtanding all the arguments of his friends to diſſuade him, and one night left his camp with ten truſty horſemen, and flew to Nanderauze, who was at this time returned to court, fell at his feet, wept, acknowledged his bad behaviour, and begged forgiveneſs. The good old man, aſtoniſhed at the boldneſs of the action, and being overcome by his ſeeming penitence, was readily induced to believe his proteſtations to be ſincere, and to think he only wanted to be reinſtated in his poſt of Duan, which the King had conferred on his old ſervant Conderow.

The King was ſoon reconciled to him, and interceſſion was made for his reinſtatement by the old Miniſter Nanderauze, who moreover promiſed, if neceſſary, to remove all

all difficulties by force of arms. Hyder having thus far gained his point, there only remained Conderow, who had put himſelf at the head of ſome troops, ſeeming reſolved to ſupport himſelf in his new dignity, knowing the King had been forced into this meaſure againſt him.

Nanderauze and Hyder, in order to reduce the new Duan Conderow, joined their troops, Hyder having ſent for his brother-in-law, Mucktom Saib, with the army he had left at Nonjudagoda, marched to meet Conderow, who was then in the field at a ſmall diſtance from the capital. Conderow's army was defeated, and his camp plundered, himſelf hardly eſcaping to the King, to whom he had related his misfortune, adviſing him of the dangerous connection between Hyder and his uncle Nanderauze.

After the battle, ſeveral of the King's troops entered into Hyder's ſervice, at the inſtance of Nanderauze, who alſo publiſhed a manifeſto, aſſuring the Myſore Bahawdas, that his friend Hyder had no treaſonable deſigns againſt the government, that all he

aimed at, was to remove his enemy Conderow from the office of Duan, of which office he himſelf had been diſpoſſeſſed by ſiniſter means; he alſo required them to aſſiſt and ſupport him to the utmoſt, ſo infatuated was this old man, that he ſaw not the ſtroke aimed at himſelf, as well as the King his nephew; in conſequence of theſe orders, ſo favourable to the deſigns of Hyder, who having ſecured all the diſtricts round, wherein he placed ſuch as he could moſt confide in, and finding the old man Nanderauze of no farther utility, compelled him to retire to his old government of Carrour.

Hyder then aſſembled the troops, paid them half their arrears, with a promiſe of the other half as ſoon as, by their aſſiſtance, he ſhould be reinſtated; the officers, and the troops, thus ſurprized into a belief that his views extended no further than the removal of his enemy Conderow, marched and inveſted the capital of their country, which Hyder blockaded, ſo as to cut off all ſupplies.

Hyder, in this interval of a month, for ſo long was the place blockaded, had very

artfully

artfully given the King ſuch full aſſurance of his perfect obedience, that he prevailed on him to open the gates, and receive him as Duan, delivering up his old enemy Conderow. No ſooner had he entered the place, in the year 1763, than he placed centinels on the palace gates, magazines, and other places, making the King a priſoner and ſeizing his treaſure, with which he paid his troops their arrears, excluſive of ſundry preſents to the chief officers of the army, who had ſo religiouſly aſſiſted him in his rebellious deſigns;---he then ſhut up his old friend Conderow in a cage, and expoſed him for ſeveral days to public view, then ſent him to the fort of Bengalore, where he remained upwards of a year in this miſerable ſituation, in which he died; the iron cage, with his bones, are to be ſeen to this day, in the public bazzar of Bengalore.

Hyder continued in this capital near ſix months, ſettling the country, and eſtabliſhing himſelf in his new government.

Termamood Cawn, appointed Nabob of Sirpi, in the year 1728, by Nizam al Muluck, dying in the year 1740, the Mah-

rattas, whoſe diſtricts lay contiguous, aſſembled ſome forces, and after reducing the whole country, inveſted Sirpi, the capital of the province of that name. Delar Cawn the ſucceeding Nabob, wanting reſolution, as well as the means of defending himſelf, gave up the place, on their ceding to him a ſmall inconſiderable tract of country, near Colar.

The conqueſt of Sirpi and its dependencies, by the Mahrattas, gave great umbrage to the Soubah, who diſpatched his brother Baſaletzing, with an army, to recover Sirpi from them. Ouſcottah being the firſt place on his route, and on the frontiers of the Myſore country, was immediately inveſted, and though garriſoned only by ſeven hundred regulars, with country arms, ſtood a ſiege of two months, notwithſtanding the utmoſt efforts of the Soubah's army.

Hyder, who was always ready to embrace any opportunity that offered, immediately diſpatched Meer Phaſula Cawn, with propoſals to the Soubah's brother, Baſaletzing, offering to pay him five lacks

of

of rupees for the title to Sirpi and its dependencies, requiring only the aſſiſtance of ſome of his troops for the reduction of the capital, engaging to compleat the reſt with his own force.

The treaty ſigned, and the money paid, Hyder marched with his army, and joined the party lent him by Baſaletzing, attacked Ouſcottah afreſh, and in a few days carried the place by compoſition, which he garriſoned with his own people, and immediately marched to the reduction of Sirpi, which ſurrendered after a month's ſiege. This ſervice being effected, the Soubah's army returned to Adony.

Hyder found little difficulty in ſettling this country, the Polligars, or Mountaineers of Chinnabalaporam, excepted; who, in the courſe of two or three months, had deſtroyed upwards of one thouſand of his troops. Finding this to be an expenſive, as well as a dangerous undertaking, the Mahrattas having frequently attacked his camp, while before Chinnabalaporam, and rendered his attempts ineffectual, he offered terms to Chinnapah, the Polligar Chief, who

godas, on condition of *his withdrawing* his army; Hyder received one lack and a half in hand, and having ſworn to the performance of the articles agreed upon, returned with his troops to Davenelli, about three coſs on his route homewards.

Morarow, a Mahratta Chief, who had been inſtrumental in the defence of Chinnabalaporam, left at the requeſt of Chinnapah, the Chief, about five hundred of his people, as a reinforcement to the place, and returned with the reſt of his troops homeward; the Polligar Chief returning at the ſame time to Nanderauze, the uſual place of his reſidence.

Hyder, who by his ſpies, ſoon learnt his abſence, and thirſting for revenge on the Mahrattas, returned by forced marches, inveſted the place again, and by ſurprizing efforts carried it by aſſault the tenth day after his coming before it; the Polligar troops being ſent home, and the Mahratta Chief at too great a diſtance to afford the garriſon any relief, he exerciſed his cruelty by mutilating numbers of the garriſon, in order

order to ſtrike terror into others, to facilitate *his future enterprizes; having given* the command of this place to one of his own relations, he ſet out with his army, in purſuit of the Mahratta Chief, and by forced marches came up with him at Podyaconda, attacked him without loſs of time, and defeated his army, killed a great number of them, and took ſeveral of the principal officers priſoners. Morarow, after this defeat, retreated to Gutty, his capital; Hyder, ſatisfied with having compelled his enemy to retire, made a conqueſt of ſuch parts of Morarow's country, as lay moſt convenient to his new acquiſitions of Sirpi, nearly to the value of three lacks of pagodas yearly,

Thus having nearly compleated his deſign of recovering the antient diſtrict of his country, he marched againſt the Chief of Chittercull Durgam, a Polligar, depending alſo on the government of Sirpi, whom he ſoon reduced, and obliged him to pay three lacks of rupees, and aſſiſt him with 1,500 horſe, and 10,000 foot in a new expedition.

Previous

Previous to this tranſaction, the Rajah of Biddenoor (a very fertile province, ſurrounded with vaſt mountains and woods, which render it very difficult of acceſs) had appointed his ſon, Chinavas Appiah, to ſucceed him in the government, in conſequence of which, this boy, but nine years old, at the Rajah's death, was inſtalled, and his name made uſe of in all matters relative to the ſtate; this continued near a year, when the Queen formed a deſign againſt the young Rajah's life, in favor of her brother, the friend of the Rajah, who found means to remove him from Court, and ſent him ſecretly to the care of the Polligar, the Chief of Chittercul Durgham; here he had remained in ſafety for eight years, to the time of Hyder's attacking the Polligar. It was here Hyder received the firſt impreſſion of reducing the Biddenoor country; the reinſtating the young Rajah, being the moſt favorable circumſtance, and the moſt conducive to his ſecret deſign. A plan was now formed between the young Rajah, Hyder, and the Polligar Chief, to re-eſtabliſh the Rajah in his

his country, for which ſervice it was ſti- pulated, that Hyder ſhould receive, beſides a valuable preſent, forty lacks of rupees for the expence of the undertaking, and he ſwore, without reſerve, to the faithful performance of the treaty.

The combined armies now marched for Biddenoor, and the young Rajah, who was with them, attended with much ceremony, generally mounted on an elephant, in order to attract the eyes of his ſubjects; this ſucceeded to Hyder's wiſh, as all the country people chearfully preſented themſelves, and furniſhed all the neceſſaries the armies ſtood in need of. The fortified places, for the ſame reaſons, opened their gates to their lawful prince, and the armies met with no oppoſition, till they reached the capital, Biddenoor. This place being well fortified, ſurrounded by rocks and vaſt precipices, covered with impenetrable woods, held out only one month, notwithſtanding the utmoſt efforts of the Queen and her brother, who had but little favor to expect from the reſentment of the young Prince, as well as the faithleſs diſpoſition

of

of the conqueror, Hyder; but the people, affected at the fight of their lawful king, ſurrendered the place; however, previous thereto, they permitted the Queen with her brother, to retire to a place of ſafety, moſt agreeable to themſelves; they choſe the fort of Derryabathar Gurr for their aſſylum, about twelve coſs diſtant from the capital. This place is exceeding ſtrong, built on an inacceſſible large rock, on one ſide ſurrounded by the ſea, and the other by a deep river.

Hyder having ſubdued Biddenoor, purſued them to this retreat, ſecuring the country on his route. When he came near the place, he ſent, in the name of their king, a ſummons to the garriſon, who immediately ſurrendered themſelves, and gave up the Queen and her brother. Hyder had taken care to garriſon all the places he had taken with the Myſore troops, and returning to Biddenoor, where he confined the Queen and her brother; all this time treating the young King with outward marks of reſpect and civility, till a circumſtance happened, which at once accom-

accomplifhed all his ambitious views. The King was poffeffed of a favourite woman, for whom he had a very great affection; Hyder wanting fome plaufible pretence for a rupture, fent fome of his fervants for this woman, which coming to the King's ears, he ordered them to be difmiffed in a very contemptuous manner; which being reported to Hyder, he immediately ordered the King into confinement, and a few days after fent him with the old Queen and her brother, under a ftrong guard, to Maddegurrey, a fortified rock, fixteen cofs from Bengaloor.

This infamous treatment threw the whole country into a ftate of confufion, and occafioned many confpiracies againft him, which he had the good fortune to difcover, and in order to prevent all attempts in future, he put to death near one thoufand of the principal inhabitants of the city of Biddenoor, in the moft cruel inhuman method he could invent; their mangled limbs were fufpended on every tree in the environs of the city. His blood thirfty rage not being fatisfied with the above cruelties, he

ordered

ordered the chief perſons of every town or village, of whom he had the leaſt ſuſpicion, to be butchered in the like manner, beſides many others, for the moſt trivial offences, had their noſes or ears cut off. So that the inhabitants of the Biddenoor country, from the dread of his cruelty, were now reduced to the moſt ſervile obedience to his tyrannic will.

From this conqueſt he marched with his uſual confidence and rapidity, into the Sonda country, a little diſtance from Goa, the King of which not being prepared for defence, abandoned his kingdom, and fled to a neighbouring Prince for protection; this country produces yearly about ten lacks of pagodas.

During Hyder's abſence from the Biddenoor country, many of the great men, who had not been ſuſpected in the former affair, plucked up courage, and applied to Mahádorow, one of the Mahratta Chiefs, and promiſed him all the aſſiſtance in their power, if he would march a ſtrong body of troops to relieve them from Hyder's tyranny. Accordingly he marched into the

Biddenoor

Biddenoor country, (where Hyder had but juſt arrived) upon his receiving information of this univerſal defection. The Mahratta troops conſiſted of ſixty thouſand horſe and fifteen thouſand foot; the two armies ſoon came to blows, and Hyder, by the enemy's ſuperiority in horſe, was worſted in three ſeveral engagements, and at laſt compelled to take advantage of the woody country near him, and there to intrench himſelf. In this ſituation he continued near twelve months, frequently attacked by the enemy, whom he, from the ſtrength of his ſituation, as often repulſed with conſiderable loſs. Mahaderow, ſeeing no proſpect of reſtoring the King, propoſed to return to his dominions, and leave Hyder in quiet poſſeſſion of the Biddenoor country, Hyder agreeing to pay forty lacks of rupees to himſelf, and twenty more to his miniſter.

The Mahrattas being returned to their country, Hyder puniſhed ſuch of the delinquents as fell into his hands, with the greateſt rigor and barbarity. Things being once more in tranquillity, Hyder left

his ſon, Tippoo Saib, in the command, and appointed Lala Mean, who had married his ſiſter, to the command of a ſtrong hold, a few miles diſtance. He alſo detached Meer Saib, (whoſe ſiſter he had lately married) to the government of Sirpi. Meer Phaſula Cawn was appointed to the command of Myſore fort and diſtrict; Mucktom Saib had the government of Siringapatam, the Myſore capital. Hyder's uncle, Ibraim Saib, continued in Bengaloor, and Amian Saib, his nephew, had charge of the Burmal Valley.

After theſe appointments, Hyder marched with a ſtrong detachment to the Mallabar coaſt, where he entered into a friendly treaty with Ally Rajah, a petty Prince, and, with his aſſiſtance, laid ſiege to Callicut, the capital and reſidence of the King of the Nayres, which place made a ſtout reſiſtance for three months, and at laſt ſurrendered on honourable terms.

About this time Meer Saib, who was in the government of Sirpi, found means to ſecure the Polligar chief, Chinapah, and, notwithſtanding he had moſt ſolemnly ſworn

to

to releaſe him, on his agreeing to the ſeveral conditions enforced on him, yet he was ſo perfidious as to ſend him a priſoner to Bengaloor, where, in a few days, he died through grief. This chief would never have ſurrendered himſelf to Meer Saib, had he not been in the utmoſt diſtreſs for want of the neceſſaries of life, being almoſt ſtarved on the Nandegoody Rock.

Hyder, to ſecure himſelf againſt any future attempts of Chinapah's ſon, who was then a young man, cauſed him forthwith to be circumciſed by force, and taught the principles of the Mahometan religion.

The Samorin, or King of Callicut, being of the Bramin ſect, and accuſtomed to feed a number of that perſuaſion daily, he himſelf taking no refreſhment until they had been ſerved; and beſides, from the rigidneſs of his principles, never accuſtomed to have any kind of intercourſe with thoſe of the Mahometan tribe, refuſed, in the politeſt terms, the honor Hyder intended him of a viſit*, but ſent a Bramin to converſe, and

* Here the French author is moſt certainly miſtaken, who ſays, in p. 110, vol. I. of his work, that the Samorin

and report to him Hyder's intentions relative to his requeſt of the neceſſary proviſions for the accuſtomed charity; ſoon after this intercourſe Hyder returned, and directed that a ſufficient quantity of grain for 500 men, ſhould be ſent to the King, who was forced to reſt ſatisfied; the next day a conſiderable deduction was made out of this allowance, and the third day the ſame; on the fourth an entire ſtop was put to this ſupply, and Hyder having ſent ſome principal Moormen to obſerve how matters went, they returned, telling him, they apprehended ſome ſtrange event from the gloomy aſpect of the King's attendants; that the King himſelf had already faſted three days, and was then preparing for ſome particular ceremony. The King, being provoked at this cruel treatment, had aſſembled all his family, and after performing ſome ceremonies

morin came forth to meet Hyder, and fell at his feet. Now it is well known to every one, that has been on the coaſt of Mallabar, that the Nayres are the moſt haughty people on the face of the earth, would ſooner ſuffer death than degrade themſelves by falling at the feet of any perſon, more eſpecially at the feet of a Mahometan; they having the utmoſt contempt for that tribe.

ceremonies with the chief Bramins, ordered fire to be ſet to different parts of the buildings of his palace, which were of wood, and the whole, together with himſelf and family, were entirely conſumed.

Upon the King's death, Hyder garriſoned the place with 200 foot and 500 horſe, and with the reſt of his army ſet out for the Coimbatoor country, forty coſs, on his route homeward. About two months after he had left Callicut, a brother of the late King brought an army of 20,000 men before the place, which, by intelligence from within, he forced, and put the whole garriſon to the ſword, except about 300, who fled to a pagoda, or temple, for ſafety; Hyder being informed of this diſaſter, immediately detached Aſouph Cawn, with 5,000 foot, and 1,000 horſe, with ſtrict orders to fight the enemy at all events. On the approach of Hyder's troops, the King's brother marched out and gave them battle; but being worſted in two attacks, and not chooſing to be ſhut up, left the place in the night, and retreated with his army, and all the inhabitants, to

the woods, leaving Hyder's troops in quiet poſſeſſion of the country.

Three months being paſt in quiet, and Hyder's party lulled into a ſtate of ſecurity, when they leaſt ſuſpected, the King's brother again appeared before the place, retook it, cut off Aſouph Cawn's head*, and killed a number of his people, the reſt flying with the bad news, reached their own country. This event happened about the year 1766, which ſo exaſperated Hyder, that he, in perſon, led an army of ſix thouſand foot and two thouſand horſe, againſt Callicut; after two days march, he gave the command of his troops to Sevagee Row, a Mahratta Bramin, who, coming before the place, was immediately attacked by the King's brother, who, being again worſted, retired to his old retreat, the woods, leaving an empty place to Hyder's General.

Hyder, on giving up the command of this army, returned with all poſſible ſpeed, accompanied by his houſhold troops, to Seringapatam, having received private advices, that

* The French author has not mentioned any thing of Aſouph Cawn's being killed here.

that Mahaderow, a Mahratta chief, was in motion, and preparing to recover the territories which his predeceſſor Goupalrauze had ceded to Hyder in the year 1760.

Although Hyder's heart was ready to burſt with vexation on hearing this news, yet he was reſolved to make a triumphant entry into Seringapatam, of which a moſt pompous account is given by the French author, who has been at great pains to ſet forth Hyder in all the glory and luſtre that could poſſibly be diſplayed on the occaſion.

Mahaderow, meeting with little oppoſition, recovered all the above diſtricts and forts, the Sirpi country, with Ouſcotta, Chinabelaporam, and their dependencies alſo. In the month of January 1767, and the enſuing month, the Soubah, Nezam Ally, with Baſſelat Jung, his brother, and their armies, joined by a detachment of the Engliſh Eaſt-India Company's troops, proceeded from Hydrebad to join Mahaderow; but the Soubah trifling away his time in collecting ſome Circar revenues, did not affect a junction until April; during this, the Mahrattas were not idle, for they had al-

ready taken and poſſeſſed themſelves of Chinna Ray Durgam, Davil Ray Durgam, and the ſtrong fort of Magdeghemy, in which laſt place they found the young King of Biddenoor, with the old Queen and her brother; after which he took ſeveral other places of note, and raiſed conſiderable contributions.

Hyder, during this time, finding ſuch a ſtorm likely to fall upon him, had been putting his principal forts in the beſt ſtate of defence, likewiſe laid in a ſufficient ſtore of ammunition and proviſions; then collecting what force he could ſpare for the field, encamped them under the walls of Seringpatam, and cauſed the flanks and front of the encampment to be entrenched and fortified, determined to wait the event, and immemediately iſſued orders, that grain, and proviſions of all kinds, which could be found thirty miles round Seringapatam, ſhould be brought into that place, and there laid up in ſtore; by doing this, he thought effectually to put a ſtop to the advancing of the combined armies. He, at the ſame time, was carrying on private negotiations with the

Soubah,

Soubah, by means of Maphuzcawn, who was ſent as ambaſſador from Hyder, on his firſt receiving the news of the combination againſt him. He alſo ſent a Vackeel to Mahaderow, the Mahratta chief, who ſoon patched up a treaty of peace with him, by which he ceded to him the places he had already taken, and paid him thirty-five lacks of rupees, on receipt of which the Mahrattas returned to their own country, refuſing to give the Soubah any ſhare of what they had obtained.

The Engliſh detachment having received ſeveral augmentation of troops, and General Smith obſerving the duplicity of the Soubah, and ſuſpecting the part he was going to act, being then near Bengalore in the Myſore country, very wiſely withdrew the army, and returned to the borders of the Carnatic, about the middle of May 1767, and the Soubah marched and joined Hyder's army by the 24th of the ſame month. By this time, the Engliſh had certain intelligence of the deſigns of Hyder and the Soubah, and that their grand ebject was the entire conqueſt of the Carnatic.

General

General Joſeph Smith viewed the growing ſtorm in its proper light, repeatedly remonſtrated to the Governor and Council of Madras, to furniſh his army with proper ſupplies of draught and carriage bullocks, which he ſtood in great need of, with every other article for carrying on a freſh campaign; but they not paying a proper attention to his remonſtrances in time, Hyder's and the Soubah's united forces entered the Bermall Valley, and immediately commenced hoſtilities. The Soubah's forces conſiſted of thirty thouſand horſe, ten thouſand ſepoys, peons, and a great number of rocket men, and ſixty pieces of cannon, with an immenſe train of lutty wallas, or freebooters. Hyder's army, of twelve thouſand well-appointed black horſe, eight hundred Mogul horſe, and a troop of ſixty European huſſars, a battalion of one thouſand topaſſes, five thouſand grenadier ſepoys, and eight thouſand battalion ſepoys, all armed with Europe muſkets and bayonets, four thouſand matchlock and rocket men, and forty-nine pieces of cannon.

The

The English army, at this time, consisting of no more than two regiments of Europeans, which together only amounted to eight hundred men fit for duty; seven battalions of sepoys, about eight hundred men in each; the corps of artillery, and about five thousand of the Nabob's black horse, and a small troop of thirty European horse, commanded by myself, then a Lieutenant.

Hyder detached several large bodies of horse to harrass and surround the English, which they did, so as to prevent any supplies from coming in their camp, in the mean time other parties of his horse ravaged the country, and set all the villages in flames. Hyder being well convinced, that he should more effectually distress the English by harrassing them than coming to a battle, constantly kept sending fresh detachments of horse, and took all opportunities to cut off their supplies; he was therefore fully determined to adhere strictly to this plan; but luckily for the English, the haughty disposition of the Soubah and his Bahaudars, could not brook this tedious method of carrying on the war, and accordingly upbraided Hyder

for

for not fulfilling his promiſe of cutting the Engliſh army to pieces.

The Engliſh army now moved towards Singurpettah Paſs, which leads out of the Burmall Valley to the Carnatic, being reduced to the greateſt diſtreſs for want of rice, and other proviſions. Hyder, and the Soubah, came to the reſolution of attacking them, which they accordingly did on the ſecond of September, near the fort of Changama. They made their appearance about noon, on which the Engliſh ſtruck their tents and prepared for action, which commenced about two o'clock. The flower of Hyder's army ſuſtained the heat of the battle in front, headed by himſelf; and the Soubah's attacked the Engliſh in their rear and flanks. This battle was fought with great obſtinacy on both ſides till about eight o'clock in the evening, when the Soubah's army gave way, which occaſioned Hyder to do ſo likewiſe, who loſt in this action above 1000 of his beſt men. The Soubah alſo ſuſtained a very heavy loſs, although the exact number was never aſcertained. The Engliſh were now maſters of the field, but could

could not purſue the blow, owing to their want of ammunition, as they had not above two or three rounds left for ſome of their guns, and not more than ten or twelve rounds at the moſt for the others; which determined the General to move towards Trinomally that night. Hyder ſoon got intelligence of the Engliſh being on the march, on which he ordered ſome parties of horſe to harraſs them as uſual, which they did effectually all night; although it was very dark, the Engliſh kept cloſe order, and proceeded on but ſlowly, often halting, and now and then firing a ſhot or two, juſt to keep off the horſe; they arrived at Trinomally in the morning by day-light, at which place they found a ſupply of ammunition and proviſions, and were ſoon after joined by Colonel Wood's ſouthern diviſion; and being now recovered from their fatigue, encamped at ſome diſtance from Trinomally. Hyder and the Soubah now advanced again with their armies, and encamped themſelves in a ſtrong ſituation near Trinomally, but on the other ſide the hills; here Hyder made a vain parade, by getting ſome of his

guns

guns on the hills, and firing at the English camp, which served mighty well to amuse the Soubah's Bahawders; and also afforded some diversion to the English soldiers, as the shot never reached their camp, and of course could not have the desired effect. The General endeavoured for some days, in vain, to draw Hyder out of this strong hold; however, a circumstance happened in his favor, which caused Hyder and the Soubah to move, on the morning of the 26th, with their armies, and quit this encampment, wherein they had so very judiciously taken post, as it was not liable to be forced by the English in the night; a circumstance Hyder always endeavoured to guard against. This place was almost impregnable by nature, being situated in a small pleasant valley, amidst several high rocks, having only two openings, one to the Westward, leading towards the Mysore country, and the other to the Eastward. In the midst of this Hyder had constructed a large redoubt, with several guns mounted therein; this place was about six miles N. W. of Trinomally. The English

army

army had moved the preceding day, and encamped in another valley, about three miles diſtance from Hyder's camp, when General Smith ordered Captain Cook, with his batalion of ſepoys, and their two light braſs three-pounders, to take poſt in front, on a rock about half way between the two camps, from whence he could deſcry the enemy's motions. Next morning, being the 26th, as before mentioned, on the General's receiving intelligence of Hyder and the Soubah advancing from their encampment, he ordered me with the part of my little troop, who were off duty, immediately to proceed to the rock whereon Captain Cook had taken poſt, from whence I was to obſerve the motions of the enemy, and ſend him intelligence thereof, by detaching one or two of my men, from time to time, as occaſion required; during which the Engliſh army were in motion, and advancing in two columns, attended, as uſual, by ſome of Hyder's horſe, ſtraggling around them. Having made all the obſervations I thought neceſſary, I took my leave of Captain Cook, and with four men I had left

left with me, galloped acroſs the plain, and paſſed amongſt Hyder's ſtragglers to join the General, whom I met at the head of the army, then in diſcourſe with a herricar, or guide, who was telling him, that there was bad ground in front of the army, which they could not eaſily paſs. On my hearing this, I immediately confuted him, and told the General that I had but juſt now come over the ground, and that was all a hard gravelly ſoil, without any obſtruction whatever, excepting a few ſtraggling buſhes. I thereupon offered my ſervice to conduct the army that way; the General deſired me to do ſo; on which I acquainted Colonel Wood (who commanded the firſt column) with my orders, and in about half an hour, I conducted the front of the army round, juſt on the right of the aforementioned rock, from whence they were in full view of the enemy, ſome of whom not then being above half a mile diſtance. By this manœuvre, Hyder's deſigns were ſomewhat fruſtrated, who expected that they would have come to the left of the ſaid rock, where he had already poſted about twenty field

field pieces, on the bank of a tank, from whence he could have completely flanked them, had they moved that way; the evading of which was certainly the effect of my obſervations, with which I had before acquainted the General, while I was on the rock. It being now about noon, when a ſevere cannonading commenced on all ſides, the main body of their horſe being now preparing to make a charge, which the General obſerving, immediately formed the line, and the men received the charge with the greateſt ſteadineſs imaginable, reſerving their fire until the enemy were almoſt on their bayonets. Our field pieces, ſome of which were ſhort twelves, were well ſupplied with caniſter grape, as was alſo the two howitzers, which ſoon put them to the route, the grape ſhot doing great execution, cutting down both men and horſes in heaps, which effectually cured them of making another charge that day. The Engliſh advanced briſkly, while Hyder's people as bravely diſputed every inch of ground, or eminence, whereon they could make the leaſt ſtand, there being ſeveral

ſmall rocks interſperſed on the plain; in this manner the battle continued until it was quite dark. Hyder and the Soubah being now very near their ſtrong encampment, took poſſeſſion of it, and the old fox, Hyder, perceiving how matters were likely to turn out, very wiſely embraced the opportunity of the night, to ſend off all his own guns and baggage through the Weſt paſs, except one, which had ſtuck faſt in a ſwamp, and was taken by the Engliſh. The Engliſh contented themſelves with keeping poſſeſſion of the field of battle, where they repoſed their weary limbs, until four o'clock in the morning, when they got under arms; and, obſerving the greateſt ſilence, moved on towards the enemy; by day-break they came in front of Hyder's redoubt, which they found was abandoned, and the cannon taken away; on which they preſſed on into their camp, when a hot fire commenced, and the battle again maintained with the greateſt bravery on all ſides, till at length the Soubah's people gave way, and of courſe Hyder's were ſoon obliged to follow, being cloſely purſued

ſued by the Engliſh until twelve o'clock at noon, when the General obſerved that his men were extremely fatigued, and at the ſame time being urged by humanity, ordered the army to halt, on which this dreadful ſcene of carnage ceaſed. On a moderate computation, Hyder and the Soubah loſt upwards of 1200 men killed, beſides thoſe that were wounded. The Soubah alſo loſt in this action thirty-ſeven braſs guns, from twelve to twenty-four pounders, moſt of which were of French manufacture. Some time after, when the Soubah made peace with the Engliſh, all thoſe guns were abſolutely reſtored to him again, although the French author, in his life of Hyder, vol. 2, page 84, is pleaſed to ſay, viz. "The Engliſh have publiſhed, that "they took many pieces of cannon belonging to the Nizam, on the day of battle, "which they afterwards returned, when "they made an accommodation with them. "There are ſtrong reaſons for doubting "this fact; becauſe theſe pieces were not "conducted in triumph to Madras, where "they would have been exhibited, if it

" were for no other reaſon than becauſe
" they were ornamented with the fleurs de
" lis."

In order to confute the above, I abſolutely declare upon honor, that I ſaw the aforementioned thirty-ſeven guns after they were taken, and they were ſent into the fort of Trinomally, from whence, ſome time after, they were ſent to Chittyputt, and Wandewaſh, at which places they were kept, until the Soubah had obtained peace of the Engliſh, and then they were reſtored to him again, as before recited. The French author, if he had choſe to recollect himſelf, muſt have known, that the fleurs de lis of France could be no rarity at Madras; on the contrary, they are ſo common, as not to be noticed, even by the blacks; witneſs the number of guns that were taken at Pondicherry, and many other forts, that yielded to the ſuperior arms of Britain, in the years 1760 and 1761.

Some time before the aforementioned action, Hyder had detached his ſon, Tippoo Saib, with a conſiderable body of horſe, to proceed

ceed immediately to the environs of Madras, with ſtrict orders to pillage and deſtroy every thing they could; even the Black Town was to have undergone the ſame fate, but was timely prevented, thro' the induſtry of Colonel Call, the chief engineer, who cauſed all the gentlemen and free inhabitants to arm themſelves, and do duty as militia, together with what troops could be ſpared from the garriſon, (which was but thinly manned) to defend the Black Town, which they effectually did, and prevented Tippoo Saib's people from entering, although part of the Weſt face, and the whole of the North face, was at that time quite open, and deſtitute of fortifications. In the interim, the Governor received an expreſs from General Smith, intimating that he had obtained a complete victory over the combined armies of Hyder and the Soubah; this gave freſh ſpirits to him, who cauſed this news to be announced by firing the guns of the garriſon, loaded with ſhot, that was on the Weſt ſide, and towards the camp of Tippoo Saib, who as yet was totally ignorant of the

cauſe thereof, but the intelligence ſoon reached him; on which he made a ſudden retreat, and marched with all poſſible haſte, to join his father, who with the Soubah, were retreated to Coverypatam, at which place he joined him.

Being near the time of the monſoons, or rainy ſeaſons, they cantoned their armies. The Engliſh army alſo marched into cantonments at Vellore, Wandewaſh, Conjeveram, &c.

The latter end of November the rains abated, when Hyder aſſembled his forces, and marched immediately into the Burmall Valley, and inveſted two mud forts, viz. Tripotore, and Vaniambady. They had only 500 Engliſh ſepoys, and a few of the Nabob's, to defend them both, although the French author ſays, there were in Vaniambady only, viz. 30 Europeans, and 1000 ſepoys; both theſe places made very little reſiſtance, and ſurrendered on terms. Hyder, after putting a ſufficient number of troops in theſe forts, proceeded farther down the Valley, and inveſted Amboor, a conſiderable fortification on a rock, the

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town (or pettah) ſituated below, and environed with a mud wall; Hyder ſoon raiſed batteries againſt the pettah, when the Engliſh officer commanding, ſeeing the impoſſibility of defending it, very prudently retired with his men to the upper fort, and immediately ſent off an expreſs to the Governor of Madras. On this the Engliſh army were ordered to aſſemble again in the greateſt hurry at Vellore, (except that part which had gone to the Southward to Tritchenopoly). When the Engliſh were aſſembled at Vellore, and collected all the bullocks they poſſibly could procure, to carry rice, and other proviſions; alſo ſome draught bullocks for the artillery, which they ſtood in extreme need of, they marched to the relief of Amboor. On their approach Hyder raiſed the ſiege, and moved up the valley again. The Soubah continued to march with his army up the Valley, as far as Coverypatam, where he encamped; but Hyder, with the flower of his army, halted at Vaniambady, where he took poſt in a very judicious manner, being

 fully

fully determined to have a trial with the Engliſh, with only his own troops.

On the 8th of December, the Engliſh army made their appearance before Vaniambady, when they found Hyder already poſted, his right wing being covered by the fort and pettah, with the river in their front; their left was alſo ſecured by ſome impaſſable ground, ſo that the General was obliged to attack him in front, which was accordingly done, viz. ſome guns were immediately drawn up on the high banks of the river, which was almoſt dry; from them they kept up a ſevere fire, under cover of which, ſome of the army began to croſs the river, when Hyder's troop of European horſe appeared on the ſands, in the bed of the river, who moved round towards the left of the Engliſh, whom they joined, agreeable to a plan before concerted by the Chevalier Saint L—b—n, who was to have performed wonders, and would have made the Engliſh believe, that it was in his power to have brought off the major part of the Europeans, then in Hyder's ſervice, but his ſchemes proved abortive.

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I take this to be the Chevalier Surgeon, mentioned by the French author, in his 2d vol. of the Hiſtory of Hyder Ally Cawn, pages 121 to 127, which ſeems to me to be ſomewhat partial, therefore thoſe who chooſe to peruſe that work, will be able to form an opinion for themſelves.

By this time the main body of the Engliſh were in the river, when a hot fire commenced on both ſides, which continued above an hour, when Hyder began to retreat, leaving only a party, compoſed chiefly of topaſſes, officered by Europeans, who were poſted in the remains of an old village, among the mud walls, which they maintained very obſtinately, until they were diſlodged, when the whole of Hyder's army retreated, and the fort of Vaniambady was evacuated. Hyder conducted this retreat in a more regular manner than he had ever done before. The Engliſh purſued him for ſome time, but on his retreating ſo judiciouſly, they thought it more adviſeable to return to Vaniambady, at which place they remained ſome days, until they had received freſh ſupplies of proviſions.

Hyder

Hyder continued his march to Coverypatam, where he again joined the Soubah. This was the third time of his being defeated by the Engliſh; the loſs in killed and wounded, on either ſide, in this action, was inconſiderable, in compariſon to either of the aforementioned battles.

Here it will not be improper to point out another miſtake of the French author, who, in the ſecond volume, p. 115, ſays, "the "Engliſh army conſiſted of 28,000 men, of "which 5,000 were Engliſh;" alſo at p. 118, of the ſame volume, he ſays, "they had "200 Engliſh dragoons."

I was preſent, and am ſure that they had not, at this time, 1,000 Europeans in their army fit for duty, nor above 15,000 black troops of all denominations, and only a little troop of 36 dragoons, commanded by myſelf.

The ſupplies of proviſions being ſafely arrived, the General ordered a party of ſepoys into Vaniambady as a temporary garriſon, then marched with the army towards Coverypatam, until he came in view of Hyder's camp, where he encamped in a moſt conve-

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nient ſituation, not above three miles diſtant from Hyder's, at which place he was ſoon after joined by the ſouthern diviſion from Tritchenopoly.

Hyder, by this time, had raiſed ſeveral ſtrong redoubts in the front of his encampment, mounted with cannon, and manned by his European troops, compoſed of deſerters from the different European powers, but chiefly French; the plain in front of which he had cauſed to be covered with buſhes of very ſtrong thorns, faſtened down; the fort of Coverypatam on his right, and a high range of hills on the left. The Engliſh did not think proper to attack him in this ſtrong ſituation, but remained ſtill within ſight, and about three miles diſtance. During this time, the Soubah began to be heartily tired of the war, and, unknown to Hyder, ſent his Duan, Rucana Dowla, to ſet on foot a treaty with the Engliſh, and abſolutely brought about a ſeparation of the Soubah's army from Hyder's. The Soubah, with his army, marched near to the Damalcherry Paſs. By this time a detachment arrived

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to the northward in the Circarrs, from Bengal, conſiſting of three hundred and fifty Europeans, and two battalions of ſepoys, with a proper train of artillery; with theſe troops the Engliſh threatened to march towards Hyderabad, the Soubah's capital. This greatly alarmed him, and he was glad, at all events, to conclude the peace with them.

The Engliſh army began to be in want of rice, and receiving an account of an eſcort being on the march with that commodity, Major Fitzgerald, an experienced officer, was detached with two companies of grenadiers, and one battalion of ſepoys, in order to join and ſtrengthen the eſcort, and conduct it ſafe to camp.

Hyder alſo had received intelligence of this eſcort of proviſions, and he himſelf, at the head of 4,000 of his beſt horſe, and ſome ſepoys, marched to intercept it, if poſſible; the Engliſh alſo hearing of Hyder's movement, ſent off another ſtrong detachment, who came within ſight of Hyder's party near Varruor. Hyder, on this, made a ſhew as if he would attack them, but ſuddenly

denly

denly moved off and marched towards Surgapettah, at which place Major Fitzgerald was juſt arrived with the eſcort, which he had joined the day before; on the appearance of Hyder, the Major prepared for an attack, and poſted the eſcort under the walls of Surgapettah, it being only a mud fort. Hyder loſt no time, but immediately attacked the Major, and met with a very ſevere repulſe; he nevertheleſs renewed the attack, but with no better ſucceſs than the former; and, after parading with his horſe ſeveral times round the eſcort and fort, and finding he could make no impreſſion, he marched off towards his camp; and the next day the Major joined the other detachment with his eſcort, and afterwards arrived ſafe in the Engliſh camp.

After the Soubah's ſeparation, Hyder left a ſtrong garriſon in the fort of Coverypatam, and marched with his army through the Palcotah Paſs into the Myſore country, which ended the year 1767.

In January 1768, the Engliſh army took the field in two diviſions; viz. one to the ſouthward, and the other to the northward,

in order to attack Hyder's dominions in different places at once; Colonel Wood had the command of the ſouthern diviſion, who was ordered to proceed to Davempoory and reduce that place, after which to proceed to Tingracotah, Atoor, and Selim, the capital places of thoſe diſtricts. The northern diviſion, commanded by General Joſeph Smith, marched up the Valley, and ſat down before Coverypatam, which they ſoon reduced; after which the General marched and inveſted Kiſtnagurrey, the moſt material fort in the Burmall Valley, ſituated on a high rock, acceſſible only on one ſide, and that very difficult to aſcend, he having intelligence that they had only one month's proviſions in the fort; however, they contrived to make it laſt longer, for they held out until the 1ſt of May, and then ſurrendered to the Engliſh. During this ſiege, Colonel Wood, with his army, had made great progreſs to the ſouthward, and had taken ſeveral of Hyder's forts, and got poſſeſſion of large diſtricts of fine fertile country.

The Governor and Council of Madras had reſolved that the northern army ſhould

paſs

pafs the mountains, and attack Hyder's dominions to the northward, on which the General gave his opinion, that the army ought not to pafs the mountains, until they were fully prepared to go againft Seringapatam and Bengalore, Hyder's too principal places; that could he get poffeffion of thofe, the fmaller ones would fall of courfe; on the contrary, fhould they determine on reducing the fmaller ones firft, the inhabitants of the whole country would fly, provifions would grow fcarce, and the troops, by being conftantly harraffed, (which undoubtedly would be the cafe) they would grow tired, and probably fickly; that as long as Hyder could fend a fuperior body of horfe into the field, they could reap no advantage from the country dependent on thefe forts; and, of confequence, it would very little facilitate the principal end of the undertaking, viz. the entire reduction of Hyder. About this time the Englifh received intelligence, that the Prefidency of Bombay had fitted out an expedition againft Hyder on that fide, and that they had reduced the forts of Mangalore and Onore, and had fortified the ifland; this

this was a capital diverſion, and was attacking Hyder in the quarter he leaſt expected, and would moſt eſſentially diſtreſs him. Hyder, immediately on hearing this, marched with the principal part of his army to the Mallabar coaſt, in order to retake Mangalore and Onore. During Hyder's abſence, the Engliſh army, in July, marched to Ouſſore and took it, after which they began to prepare for the ſiege of Bengalore: an indent was accordingly ſent to Madras, for a complete battering train of artillery, ammunition, &c. &c. which could not reach the army in leſs than three months.

But to return to Hyder. On his approach to Mangalore, the Bombay detachment were intimidated, and moſt ſhamefully abandoned their conqueſts; the greateſt part of them were made priſoners, many guns and ſtores, and the money they had for the uſe of the detachment was alſo taken. This infamous behaviour of theirs greatly encouraged Hyder's troops, and left him at liberty to return to defend his country on this ſide. Hyder, after raiſing conſiderable ſums of money, and ſome more horſe, in the Bid-
denore

denore country, arrived with all poſſible haſte at Bengalore, with his army, on the 28th of July, where he was very buſy in putting them in the beſt order in his power.

Hitherto, the operations of the Madras army was unmoleſted, but they ſoon found they had now a powerful active enemy to deal with.

In the beginning of Auguſt, the Engliſh northern army was joined by Morrarow, a Mahratta chief, with about 1,500 horſe. On the 24th, at night, Hyder, with a ſtrong party, ſurprized and entered Morrarow's camp, which lay at ſome little diſtance of the Engliſh, with a moraſs between them; a party of Engliſh was immediately ſent to his relief, and Hyder retreated with the loſs of 150 of his beſt men. Morrarow was wounded himſelf in two places, and behaved very bravely at the head of a ſmall party that he had aſſembled together on the firſt alarm.

Colonel Wood, who commanded the ſouthern army of the Engliſh, and had taken the Selim and Coimbatore countries,

was now ordered to march to the northward, and join General Smith's army.

Hyder, elated with his late ſucceſs on the Mallabar coaſt, marched from Bengalore, with 10,000 horſe and 8,000 ſepoys, and 14 light field-pieces, part of which he had taken from the Bombay detachment, and took the route of Buddecotah, through which paſs Colonel Wood's route lay; however, Wood got through the paſs, and took poſt under the walls of Buddecotah. Hyder ſoon after made his appearance, but did not chooſe to attack him; however, after reconoitring Wood, he moved off and encamped about twelve miles to the northward. In the morning of the 6th of September, the two Engliſh armies joined, and immediately marched, in two diviſions, in queſt of Hyder; about nine o'clock their advanced guards diſcovered Hyder's army drawn up in good order; the Engliſh advanced to attack him with great briſkneſs, but Hyder ſoon detached ſome bodies of horſe, which moved round their lines and kept them in play; mean while his artillery and infantry drew off, which they accompliſhed with great

great eaſe; the Engliſh continued to purſue them until three o'clock in the afternoon, but to no other purpoſe, than to convince them that following him was a vain, fruitleſs attempt, Hyder's cattle being ſo greatly ſuperior to thoſe of the Engliſh, and could march away from them at any time with the greateſt facility.

Colonel Wood's line in the purſuit, did not keep that order which they ought to have done: a gun, and two howitzers, with their tumbrils, but lightly guarded, fell behind, the bullocks which drew them being quite exhauſted; Hyder obſerving this, detached a body of horſe to the Colonel's rear, charged the party, and cut them to pieces—gunners, laſcars, &c. in all about 170 men; and had not the cannon of the Colonel's diviſion been well ſerved, he would have ſuffered more, for he was ſome minutes ſurrounded on all ſides. The General ſent a party from his diviſion, and recovered the gun and howitzers.

Hyder continued to retreat, after the Engliſh army had halted, and encamped about ſeven miles from them. The next day,

 Colonel

Colonel Wood being much indiſpoſed, General Smith ordered Colonel Lang to take the command of that diviſion, and reinforced him with two more battalions of ſepoys, and directed him to purſue Hyder, and bring him to an engagement, if poſſible. The General marched with his diviſion towards Colar, to receive a large convoy of proviſions, and then moved on in queſt of Hyder. Colonel Lang ſtill purſued, but in vain, Hyder's cattle being ſo far ſuperior, as before-mentioned, which enabled him to play with the Engliſh as he pleaſed. Colonel Lang was now obliged to halt for want of rice. On the 15th, the General had advanced as far as Ramaſamoodrum, and immediately ſent Lang a ſupply of all the rice he could ſpare; finding they could not bring Hyder to an engagement, *unleſs he choſe it*, Colonel Lang was left with his diviſion to watch Hyder's motions, that he might not, in the General's abſence, attempt any of their poſſeſſions; who marched with the reſt of the army to eſcort the Nabob of Arcot, Mahomet Ally, to the paſs leading into the Carnatic, his health not permitting

him

him to keep the field. At this time some overtures from Hyder, proposing to treat of peace, detained the Nabob, and now the two gentlemen, deputed by the Governor and Council of Madras, to act as Field Deputies, came from Colar, and joined the army, in order to carry on the negociation with more conveniency. Hyder's Vackeel being now in the English camp, who offered, in his master's name, to cede to the English the whole Burmall Valley, and pay down ten lacks of rupees, the General intimated that he should also make the army a present sufficient to reimburse the losses the officers had sustained during the war. This was very short of the demand the Field Deputies made; they wanted the Coimbatore country as well as the Burmall Valley, and to be paid the expence of the war, amounting to upwards of 70 lacks of rupees. These demands Hyder would not agree to, and his Vackeel left the camp. On the 3d of October, Colonel Wood having recovered of his indisposition, had joined his division, which was at this time near the fort of Mulwagle, situated on a high

rock, which the Engliſh had got poſſeſſion of by means of the Killedar's attachment to the Nabob of Arcot, having formerly been in his ſervice, who delivered this place to them, which was the only place of conſequence they had got in the Myſore country, as a few men could defend it, and lay very convenient for protecting the convoys from the Carnatic. A company of Engliſh ſepoys, with a good careful Serjeant, was put in this fort, but, during the abſence of the army, in one of their excurſions after Hyder, one of the Field Deputies had taken on him to withdraw the Serjeant and the company of ſepoys, and to put ſome recruit ſepoys of the Nabob's in the fort, in their place.

A convoy of rice now arriving at Tylar, which Colonel Wood ſtood in great need of, he marched his diviſion to that place for it. Hyder having intelligence of this, and the weak ſtate that Mulwagle was left in, detached a ſtrong party, who, in the dead of the night, aſcended the rock, found the Nabob's ſepoys aſleep, and got poſſeſſion of the place. Colonel Wood, as ſoon as he heard what had happened, marched imme-

diately to Mulwagle, ſtormed the pettah, and got poſſeſſion of it; and, at night, ordered the fort on the hill to be attacked by two battalions of ſepoys, who were repulſed, with the loſs of one of their Captains, a Serjeant Major, and ſeveral ſepoys killed; the other Captain, with a Lieutenant and ſeveral more ſepoys, wounded; this was on the third day after the Vackeel left the camp; and, on the fourth, Hyder moved with the whole army to the relief of Mulwagle. On Colonel Wood's firſt perceiving him, he ordered a picquet to advance, to make what diſcoveries they could, but they imprudently advanced too far, and were attacked and obliged to retreat near the line; in ſo doing they loſt two guns and their tumbrils, and, to preſerve this party, the whole line was obliged to advance; the ground was very rough, being interſperſed with numbers of rocks, which the Colonel occupied. Hyder now preſſed on with a reſolution he had never ſhewn before, whoſe horſe ſurrounded his infantry; and threatened to cut down any of the ſepoys that gave way, they advanced on the Engliſh with eight pieces of

cannon, and a continual loose fire of musquetry; however, the Colonel maintained his position till two o'clock (Hyder having first appeared about ten), when finding Hyder, from his superior numbers, had quite surrounded him, and possessed too much advantage in the ground, he retreated about half a mile to a position more advantageous, resolutely contending with Hyder. During this movement, Hyder continued to press on, his artillery was now become superior to the English, firing from twelve pieces of cannon, some part of them being so close, that the English used their bayonets; the ground was full of rocks, and each being contended for, thus the action continued till near sun-set, when the Captain who had been wounded the night before, and was left with 500 sepoys to keep possession of the pettah, marched out and joined Colonel Wood, beating the grenadiers march: Wood's troops thought they had been the advanced guard of General Smith's division, which put them in such high spirits, that they gave a general huzza. Hyder, who was likewise deceived, ordered his army to

retreat

retreat (thus ended this action), leaving Colonel Wood in full possession of the field of battle. Hyder lost about 1,000 men, among whom were some of his best sepoy officers, and a great number of horsemen. Colonel Wood lost two Captains, and two subalterns killed; one Captain and two subalterns wounded; about eighty private Europeans, and upwards of 300 sepoys, killed and wounded, besides some of the Nabob's sepoys.

During this engagement Hyder's artillery was managed with equal skill, and fired as briskly as those of the English, a circumstance never experienced before from any of the country powers; it was occasioned as follows: some time before the English battalions of sepoys had two small brass three-pounders attached to each battalion, and were managed by sepoys, who were taught by the European gunners, which gave them great confidence, and they became extremely fond of learning the gun exercise, and were almost as expert at it as the Europeans themselves; many of the English sepoys had deserted to Hyder on account of the scarcity of provisions,

provisions, amongst whom were some of those artillery sepoys, and were the very men that managed his guns in the late engagement.

Hyder now marched his army, and sat down before Margamully; the English army marched in two divisions to its relief, but on their approach, Hyder moved off. As Margamully was thought of that consequence that the army should march to its relief, the General thought proper to put it in a better state of defence than it was before; and clearly perceiving, that to follow Hyder, in order to bring him to a decisive action, was a fruitless attempt, and could answer no end; but, on the contrary, only harrass and reduce the army, which were already very sickly, and a desertion among the sepoys that grew very alarming, occasioned by the badness and scarcity of rice, resolved therefore to halt the army here, until provisions were put into the fort; which took him from the 19th to the 29th. During this time, he represented to the Field Deputies at Colar, the necessity of adopting some other method of carrying on the

the war; but they insisted on adhering to the former plan; he then marched the army again in quest of Hyder, who, at times, would suffer him to come almost within cannon shot of them, and would then move off with ease. Hyder having, by these feints, drawn them to a considerable distance thro' the country, one night moved off with his army to Colar, at which place the Nabob and the two Field Deputies resided, where he cannonaded some sepoys that were encamped without the fort walls, and drove them in, which greatly alarmed the Deputies and the Nabob. On the 7th of November the army came near Colar, and Hyder retreated as usual; from the 7th to the 14th nothing was undertaken on account of the heavy rains. On this day the army marched to escort the Nabob to the Carnatic.

The little effect the operations had towards terminating the war, and all the sanguine expectations the Deputies had conceived of reducing the Mysore country, beginning to vanish, they themselves grew odious to the whole army. When a mea-

ſure happens to miſcarry, the perſon at the head of the executive part is ſure to be cenſured; ſo it was with the General. The Deputies endeavoured to throw the odium of the failure of their own idle, vain, and indigeſted plans, on him, who had always been averſe to them; and, like all other perſons in their ſituation, wanted to have ſome other perſon at the head of the army. In order to do this, they took a moſt extraordinary ſtep. The Deputies were diſcontinued, and the General inveſted with the direction of the army in the Myſore country; provided he would point out any operation that could anſwer the expences of the war, and would warrant the intention of the Company in undertaking this expedition.

If he would not point out ſuch operation, in that caſe, to go to Madras, that they might conſult him regarding their future operations. It was now too late to inveſt him with ſuch a power, for they had already overſhot themſelves, and it was out of his power to point out any method equal to their expectations.

The

The General, therefore, agreeable to their orders, left the army to the command of Colonel Wood, which he plainly ſaw was what they were endeavouring to bring about; having, from his ſucceſſes to the ſouthward, conceived an high idea of his abilities.

Hyder, who had more than once puniſhed the Colonel for want of that regularity, which always gave the Engliſh army the advantage over his numbers, entertained quite a different opinion of him; and he had often declared, as reported from good authority, that he would engage Colonel Wood, with the whole of the Engliſh army, if he could once meet him at the head of it.

At the time the General marched to eſcort the Nabob into the Carnatic, he reinforced Wood's diviſion with the 2d regiment of Europeans, and a battalion of ſepoys, which made his diviſion at leaſt two two thirds of the whole army. The General then proceeded to Madras, and left the command of his diviſion to Major Fitz-Gerald.

When

When Hyder retreated from Colar, he marched and laid ſiege to Ouſſore, and had raiſed ſome batteries againſt it. When Colonel Wood marched to its relief, he took with him two fine braſs eighteen pounders from Colar, and on his arrival at a place called Baugalore, about eighteen miles from Ouſſore, he ordered thoſe two guns, with all the ſtores, baggage, and bazzar, together with all the followers of the army, into the pettah of Baugalore. On his approach to Ouſſore, Hyder withdrew from before the place, and made an appearance, as if he intended to come to action; a ſevere cannonade commenced, but Hyder ſoon drew off, and taking a circuit, arrived that night at Baugalore, he ſtormed and got poſſeſſion of the pettah, and maſſacred between two and three thouſand men, women, and children, took the two eighteen pounders, and all the ſtores, bazzar, and baggage of the army, with upwards of two thouſand draught and carriage bullocks. On intelligence of this, Wood marched back to Baugalore, which he found in a moſt miſerable ſituation.

Having

Having loſt every thing, it became neceſſary to return to Colar; he therefore marched the next day for that place. On his march thither, Hyder made his appearance, a cannonade enſued, and ſome muſquetry was fired on both ſides, but no very cloſe action came on. Hyder had divided his army into ſmall columns, who ſurrounded them; his artillery likewiſe played on them from ſome high grounds, whenever he could bring his guns to bear, and with his horſe impeded their march until night, when Hyder drew of his army. The Colonel encamped about three miles from Hyder, and at one o'clock that morning marched again; but Hyder was reſolved that he ſhould not give him the ſlip, ſo immediately put his troops in motion, and appeared in the Colonel's rear by two o'clock; however, Wood continued his march in two lines, the front and rear guards being ordered to cover the intervals between the two lines, ſo in fact, they formed an oblong ſquare; what trifling ſtores they had left, and Morrarow's horſe were placed in the centre; Hyder's parties harraſſed them

all

all round, ſo that they were forced to keep up a continual fire from their guns and ſmall arms to keep them off. The next day Hyder's parties intercepted them as the day before, and cannonaded them from every high ground they came to; the Colonel's march of courſe being very ſlow. About eleven o'clock in the morning, he encamped among ſome rocks, at the foot of a high range of mountains, forming a ſtrong poſt, and difficult of acceſs. Hyder, however, got poſſeſſion of ſome high ground in the front, and encloſed him in his poſt, and cannonaded any of his people that ſhewed themſelves from behind the rocks.

Major Fitz-Gerald had marched back from the paſs with his diviſion, and an eſcort of rice, who by his ſpies had heard of the Baugalore affair, and on his march alſo heard the cannonading; who, on his arrival at Colar, ordered all his heavy baggage, with the convoy of rice, into that place, and then continued his march to relieve Colonel Wood. On his appearance Hyder drew off his army, and the Major joined Wood the ſame evening about five o'clock;

and

and ſound him in the greateſt diſtreſs, being in deſpair, without proviſions, and ſurrounded by a victorious enemy. Had not the Major ſo ſeaſonably arrived, ſome fatal conſequences muſt have enſued. Wood's loſs the two days did not amount to more than five European officers killed and wounded, with about twenty-four private Europeans, and two hundred ſepoys; but his troops had loſt all confidence, and were in the greateſt dejection. After getting ſome ſupplies from Colar, the whole army once more encamped on the plain, and moved towards Hyder, who by this time had heard that the Nabob had returned to the Carnatic, and that General Smith was called to Madras. Hyder immediately came to a reſolution to attempt the recovery of the Burmall Valley, and the Coimbatore countries. While preparations were making for this, Hyder led the Engliſh a circuit back by Baugalore, then he croſſed the country towards Ouſſcotah, and from thence to Colar. Things being now prepared he ſet out on his expedition.

A few days after General Smith's arrival at Madras, he received accounts from Major Fitz-Gerald of the late unhappy affair at Baugalore, &c. This threw the Governor and Council into the greateſt conſternation, the more ſo, as they had no accounts from Colonel Wood, whoſe conduct was now ſo much diſapproved of, that they ordered him to reſign the command of the army to Colonel Lang, and forthwith repair to Madras. Lang found himſelf under great difficulties what meaſures to purſue; after deliberating ſome time, he detached Major Fitz-Gerald, with about two-thirds of the effective part of the army, to follow Hyder, who by this time had got nine days ſtart of him.

Before I proceed any farther with this detail, it will be neceſſary to take ſome notice of the ſituation of the ſouthern conqueſts. At the time thoſe countries fell into the hands of the Engliſh, they abounded with the greateſt plenty of grain, cattle, and proviſions of every kind. Moſt of the forts in the Valley, and Selim country, were garriſoned by the Nabob's troops, who

were

were very badly paid, and as badly diſciplined, and the country put under the direction of his managers; in the Coimbatore country there were a few of the Company's own troops along with thoſe of the Nabob.

Hyder finding this province was left with ſo few troops in it, had ſent one of his principal officers, Meer Phauzally Cawn, with a detachment, to attempt the recovery of it. He had forced the Guzzatta paſs, and had obtained ſome advantages in the province; on which ſome Engliſh troops were aſſembled at Tritchenopoly, and ſent for the protection of that country, under the command of Colonel Frieſhman.

The inhabitants of the fort of Coimbatore, being diſſatisfied at the oppreſſion of the Nabob's managers, armed themſelves, and maſſacred the greateſt part of the garriſon; amongſt thoſe that fell was a Mr. Hamilton, the pay-maſter. The few that made their eſcape, were aſſembled at Eroad; when Colonel Frieſhman arrived there, he found the garriſon without proviſions, and by ſome great miſmanagement, the greateſt

ſcarcity of grain in the whole country. The Colonel went immediately to Carrour to procure grain, and finding his health in a bad ſtate, went to Tritchenopoly, and the command reſted with Captain Orton.

But to return to Hyder. When he entered the Valley, he ſpread a report, that the Nabob was run away, and the General gone to Madras; and that he had beaten the Engliſh army, and taken their guns; and threatened the ſevereſt vengeance on all thoſe who would not ſubmit to his tyranny.

The Nabob's troops, as I have before obſerved, were badly paid, they therefore made no reſiſtance. On Hyder's appearance amongſt them, the forts of Darampore, Tingeracotah, Wambanmore, Attoor, Selim, and Nankull, all ſubmitted without firing a gun, or retarding him a day. Hyder then croſſed the river Cavery, about thirty miles to the weſt of Tritchenopoly, and marched to Carrour, which alſo ſubmitted to him without reſiſtance, from whence he marched to Eroad. On his march thither, a detachment Capt. Orton had ſent after proviſions, who not having

proper

proper intelligence, fell in with the van guard of his army unawares. This detachment defended themſelves with the greateſt bravery imaginable, until the major part of them were cut to pieces, when the ſurviving few ſurrendered themſelves priſoners of war; they conſiſted of fifty Europeans, and five companies of ſepoys. The next day Hyder arrived before Eroad, and ſummoned the place; Capt. Orton having received Hyder's promiſe to let him return, was fooliſh enough to go out of the fort himſelf, to capitulate; ſome difficulties ariſing, he wanted to return, but Hyder detained him. The next morning Captain Orton agreed to terms, and ſent orders to the ſenior officer in command to march out the troops, and deliver up the fort; which order was obeyed, and the whole were made priſoners. The garriſon conſiſted of two hundred Europeans, two battalions and a half of ſepoys, five hundred of the Nabob's horſe, and ſome of his ſepoys; beſides the battering train of artillery uſed by Colonel Wood to reduce this country, conſiſting of eight pieces of cannon, ſome mortars, ſhot and

ſhells, ſome field pieces, and all the muſquets belonging to the three battalions in this province, all which now fell into Hyder's hands.

Major Fitz-Gerald with his diviſion, who had followed Hyder with all poſſible haſte, had the mortification of finding that every fort in his way had ſurrendered, and was garriſoned by Hyder's troops. On his arrival at Nankull he learnt the fate of Eroad; he therefore moved down to Tritchenopoly, to cover that place, which was, by being drained of almoſt all its garriſon, in danger; and had Hyder, inſtead of turning to Carrour, gone down to Tritchenopoly, he certainly would have got poſſeſſion of it. The Major, on his arrival near Tritchenopoly, ſent off a battalion of ſepoys to Madura, which place was alſo in want of troops; thus ended the year 1768.

Hyder, after remaining ſome time at Eroad, moved towards the Carnatic, leaving Meer Phauzally Cawn to carry on the war to the ſouthward, and to penetrate into the Madúra and Tenevelley countries.

Hyder

Hyder marched by Terriore, which place the Nabob's troops abandoned; and on entering the Tritchenopoly bounds, began to burn, plunder, and deſtroy every thing in their power. Major Fitz-Gerald, whoſe party was conſiderably weakened by detachments, ſickneſs, and deſertion, moved towards Outatore, to prevent Hyder's paſſing to the northward. Hyder, however, ſoon after appeared near this place, and at night moved off to the eaſtward.

The Governor and Council of Madras, being now more peaceably inclined, ſent a letter to Hyder, offering to treat of peace. Hyder, on his march the day after, paſſing the Major at Outatore, ſent to him, and acknowledged the receipt of the Governor and Councils' letter, and deſired he would ſend ſome truſty perſon to him; an officer was accordingly ſent. The Engliſh army now moved to Volcondah, and Hyder's moved on the banks of the river Coleroon, to the boundaries of the Tanjore country. Hyder now ſignified to the officer that was ſent to him, his readineſs to make peace with the Engliſh Company, and deſired that

a perſon veſted with full power, might be ſent to treat with him; and alſo wrote to the Governor to the ſame effect. Hyder, however, never ceaſed burning and deſtroying the country. While he lay near Tanjore, he obliged the King, (or Rajah) to give him four lacks of rupees, which, as ſoon as he received, he moved towards Volcondah, ſtill burning the villages wherever his troops appeared. Major Fitz-Gerald was gone nearer Cuddalore for rice. Mr. Andrews, one of the Council, was now appointed to go and treat with Hyder; and the Board prevailed on General Smith to take again the command of the army. Directions were now ſent to Major Fitz-Gerald to move towards Chittapet; and alſo a detachment from Colonel Lang's diviſion to march to the ſame place, where the General alſo arrived, and took the command on the 1ſt of February, 1769. The Council had wrote to Hyder, propoſing to him, for the Engliſh army to lay near Tiagar, and his to go through the Attoor Paſs, during the conference. This Hyder rejected, and ſent the Council word, that Wan-

dewaſh

dewash and Conjeveram would be more convenient. Hyder now made a circuit with his army to the eastward, and then turned towards Pondicherry. The General moved by the way of Ruttlegramon towards him, on which he returned back for Tiagar. The English army being now at Trivenellore, Mr. Andrews came to them at that place, from whence he went to Hyder's camp. The General wrote to Hyder, that if he chose to remain near Tiagar during the conference, he would march the English army to Chittapet, which was accordingly done.

Hyder now in his turn was very high in his demands, whereupon Mr. Andrews agreed to carry those demands to Madras, and that a cessation of arms should take place for twelve days; and it was further agreed, that Hyder's army should lay about half way between Gingee and Pondicherry, and the English army should march to Arcot, or Conjeveram; to which the General objected, that Hyder should be so near Pondicherry, as the French were his friends. However, Hyder moved with his army to the

the part aſſigned him; when two French counſellors, with preſents from Pondicherry, waited on him, and a grand houſe was fitted up at that place for the reception of one of his principal officers; and, during Hyder's ſtay in the Carnatic, a communication was kept up between him and the French, who bought the cattle, and any thing elſe his army had plundered the country of; and likewiſe furniſhed him with all the neceſſaries he wanted.

Hyder's demands not being fully agreed to, the General moved towards him with the Engliſh army, and he retreated back to Trivellore; the General then marched to Ruttlegramon, and detached an eſcort to Gingee for rice.

Hoſtilities having commenced afreſh, and the whole country in flames, a body of Hyder's horſe now hovered round the Engliſh, and the only diſadvantage they ſuffered on this account, was the difficulty of obtaining intelligence of Hyder's motions.

Hyder now threatened to ſet fire to the town of Madras; that is, what is called the

the Black Town. The General (left Hyder should give him the slip) ordered Colonel Lang, with his division, to lay at Conjeveram, which then consisted only of three hundred Europeans, two battalions of sepoys, and Morrarow's horse. The day that the aforementioned escort marched to Gingee for rice, Hyder made a forced march from Trivallore, and arrived near Permacoil. The General, who had intelligence of him that night about one o'clock, immediately marched after him, and about nine o'clock in the morning, discovered Hyder's army on their march towards Alampurvey. Hyder was much disconcerted at his being discovered, and seemed undetermined whether he should turn towards Pondicherry, or continue his route to the northward; he at length continued the latter. The English had a long march, and it was so very hot, that it was necessary to encamp during the heat of the day. About four in the evening they marched again, taking their route by Carrangoley; and about ten in the evening received some account of Hyder's route; who, after continuing it

about

about eight miles north on the Madras road, ſuddenly changed it, and ſtruck off to the left, up the country; Hyder being apprehenſive, that if he kept the lower road towards Madras by the ſea-ſide, he ſhould be forced into an action, or, in all probability, loſe all his baggage. As Hyder had changed his route, and taken the upper road towards Madras, the Engliſh army moved on towards Conjeveram, to ſupport Lang's diviſion, which was very weak, in caſe he ſhould come that way. Hyder moved towards Arcot, and ſuddenly changed his route to Gingee. The General then moved to Wandewaſh, and directed Lang to follow with his diviſion. During this, a detachment had arrived at Madras from the Circarrs, which was thought a ſufficient defence for the Black Town. Colonel Lang was now ordered with his diviſion to Trinomally, and to intercept the intercourſe between Hyder's army and the Myſore country.

Hyder now marched towards Cuddalore and threatened that place, and ſome of his parties abſolutely entered the bounds, but did little damage. On the appearance of the General

General with his army, Hyder moved to Villeporam, and the General followed him as far as Rambacum, where he received intelligence that Hyder, at the head of 6,000 horſe, and a few of his beſt ſepoys, had marched that morning and paſſed through Trivanallore, and that the reſt of his army, with all his bazzar and baggage, with the ſick and wounded, were ordered to go by Tiagar, and proceed through the Attoor Paſs; the General then ordered Colonel Lang to try to cut off this party, if poſſible, and prevent them from entering the Paſs: the General then took the neareſt route for Madras.

Hyder marched with his party from Villeporam to Tennevannum before he halted, being forty-five miles, and arrived at St. Thomas's Mount, about ſeven miles weſt of Madras, on the 29th of March. He immediately wrote to the Governor, acquainting him, that he was come in perſon to treat of peace, and deſired that Mr. Dupre might be ſent out to him, and that the Governor would ſend immediate orders to ſtop General Smith

with

with his army from approaching near Madras.

Hyder, in this laſt undertaking, laid himſelf more open than he imagined, or had done, during the whole war; as he knew nothing of Colonel Lang's moving towards Tritchenopoly, otherwiſe he never would have ſent his cannon, &c. the route he had done; but, by good luck, they eſcaped through the Paſs.

When Hyder arrived at St. Thomas's Mount, he had marched 130 miles in three days and a half; his horſes and men conſequently were greatly fatigued. The Engliſh had then doing duty in Madras about 400 Europeans and 2,300 ſepoys, and a field train of artillery ready fitted; nevertheleſs, the Governor and Council, inſtead of ordering out thoſe troops to attack Hyder, which they might have done on the firſt night with ſafety, while his people were ſo very much fatigued, ſent a peremptory order for the General to halt his army wherever that order ſhould meet him. Mr. Dupre accordingly attended Hyder's ſummons at the Mount, and Hyder forwarded the Go-

vernor and Councils' order to General Smith, by one of his own Carnatic hircarrs, or ſpies, who, miſtaking the road the General was advancing on, did not deliver the letter to him until he arrived at Vandelore the 31ſt of March, about ten miles from the Mount. Hyder was much alarmed at his near approach, and deſired that the General might be ordered back at the diſtance of twelve coſs, or thirty-ſix miles from him. The Madras Board ſent an order accordingly; but the General, not thinking proper to comply with it, remained with the army where he was. Hyder finding the General would not move off, and not thinking it ſafe to ſtay himſelf ſo near, he marched his party about eight miles to the north weſt of Madras; and the Board not knowing his intentions, wrote to the General to move nearer with the army with the greateſt expedition; the General obeyed; but the Board being informed by Hyder, that he had only ſhifted his party to a more convenient ſpot of ground, the General had another order to halt, which he did near the Mount.

The

The treaty of peace was soon concluded; and, on the 4th of April, 1769, was signed and sealed, which redounded to Hyder's honor, who, at the head of a few horse, could dictate to the Board of Madras, and force them into his own terms; had they abided by the opinion of General Smith, who was for carrying on the war a little longer, as he well knew, by experience, and the knowledge he possessed of Hyder's affairs, which were then in a desperate situation, so that he could not possibly have remained any time in the Carnatic, and, of course, would have been glad to have accepted of any terms, they might have made a more honourable peace.

Hyder Ally having made a peace with the English, as before noticed, enjoyed himself in perfect tranquillity, until the year 1770. During this interval, he got the affairs of his country regulated, and every thing tolerably well settled.

As happiness in this life is but of short duration, so it happened to Hyder. In the latter end of the year 1770, he was visited by an army of Mahrattas, consisting of

60,000

60,000 horſe and about 20,000 infantry, with a few ſmall field pieces, very badly manned, under the command of Trimbuch Mama, uncle to the Peſwar, or chief Mahratta, as Mahaderow, the other chief, was left at Poona, their capital, in ill health.

Trimbuch Mama, as he marched through the further parts of Hyder's dominions, ſeized on every fort ſituate in the plains, except Bengalore, and carried fire and ſword through every diſtrict, to the utter ruin of the miſerable inhabitants.

Hyder, too weak in cavalry to oppoſe this torrent, contented himſelf with ſecuring a ſtrong poſition, a few miles from Seringapatam, his capital. His army then conſiſting of about 8,000 choice cavalry, 13,000 ſepoys, well armed with European firelocks, and an exceeding good train of field artillery well appointed. Here he watched every opportunity of falling on the Mahratta detachments, who were foraging and plundering, and he generally gained advantage from theſe exploits.

Morrarow, an old Mahratta chief, who was, in the late war, in alliance with the

Englifh (and whofe camp Hyder ftormed), did not forget his treatment; having now joined his army to that of Trimbuch Mama, and offered 10,000 rupees to any one of his men that would bring Hyder's head to him.

Morrarow had ftrenuoufly advifed Trimbuch Mama to fend forward thefe detachments near Seringapatam, by way of lure to Hyder, in order to encourage him to leave the ftrong pofition he had remained in for near eight months. This fucceeded to their wifh; Hyder, though wary enough at other times, was now thrown off his guard; for he being elated with the feveral late trifling fucceffes over the Mahrattas' fmall detachments, was, by degrees, drawn to a confiderable diftance from his capital; from whence he drew all his provifions. This was juft what the Mahrattas wanted. Trimbuch embraced the opportunity, and immediately detached a powerful body of his troops to get between Hyder and Seringapatam, while the main of the army hovered round his front, fo that he could not move without being difcovered. Provifion in his camp now grew fcarce, and he found, when

too late, that he had been decoyed beyond the line of prudence, and no alternative remained but to give them the ſlip, if poſſible, or to fight his way back; the firſt was ſcarcely to be done, as the number of parties the Mahrattas had out, night and day, made it next to a miracle for him to eſcape.

It being now September 1771, Hyder having made the neceſſary diſpoſitions of his army, and formed the whole in a ſquare, began his march about midnight, and entered early in the morning on a plain, at ſome miles diſtant from his capital. The Mahrattas were round him as ſoon as day dawned, and harraſſed him without intermiſſion; this occaſioned many halts, but the vivacity of his guns kept the Mahrattas at a diſtance, until he had proceeded a conſiderable length. Unfortunately for Hyder, in his front, at ſome diſtance, ſtood a large rock in the plain, and his infantry being tired at the frequent charges repeatedly made by the Mahratta cavalry, and the front of his column thinking they could gain the rock in ſafety, ſet their faces towards it with a very quick ſtep. Hyder ſaw, in the in-

ſtant, the fatal conſequences of this raſh movement, and exerted every power to prevent it, but in vain; for the men, dead to his reproaches, his intreaties, and threats, moved on haſtily, his column became open in ſeveral places, and the rear, even at a run, could not keep up.

The Mahrattas no ſooner perceived the confuſion of Hyder's troops, than the whole body of their cavalry charged him ſword in hand, and, in a few minutes, Hyder's army were cut in pieces, except a few, with whom he made his eſcape to Seringapatam. All his baggage, guns, camp equipage— his beſt officers, and 13,000 of his veteran infantry, fell a ſacrifice to the indiſcretion and want of fortitude in the van of his column; for had they perſiſted in moving on in cloſe order, in all probability they would have reached their deſtination.

This was a terrible blow to Hyder, who found himſelf under the walls of his capital, without an army, without reſources, and without an ally or friend, to whom he could look to for aid in this moſt critical hour of his life; but deſpondency was ever a ſtranger

to

to him, and though he ſaw himſelf cooped up in his capital, his country intirely deſolated by the enemy, and moſt of his forts in their poſſeſſion, ſtill he did not give way to deſpair, but placed his confidence in that fortune which had ever ſupported him in many trying and almoſt inſurmountable difficulties.

The Mahrattas followed him cloſe, and ſhut him up in Seringapatam; that was all they could do: for, having neither the art, or materials, for carrying on a ſiege, they could only blockade the city, and prevent proviſion, or troops, from entering it.

In theſe circumſtances, Trimbuch Mama wrote, in the moſt preſſing terms, to the Nabob of the Carnatic, and to Mr. Dupre, then Governor of Madras, for a body of Engliſh troops and great guns, to reduce Hyder's capital, and entirely to cruſh him.

The Nabob moſt ſtrenuouſly ſupported the requeſt of Trimbuch, but Mr. Dupre oppoſed it, on the faith of the late treaty of peace concluded with Hyder in 1769; who alſo called on Mr Dupre for aſſiſtance againſt the Mahrattas, who, for very good reaſons,

wrote fair letters to each, but resolved to aid neither.

The Mahrattas, who, for near two years, had carried fire and sword into every part of Hyder's dominions, and, by these means, had driven the inhabitants from the whole country, found themselves extremely distressed for provisions; and, finding no hopes of any succours from the Carnatic, withdrew their army from before Seringapatam, and retired northward, crossed the river Kistna, and so on to their own country, where Mahaderow's death soon happened, and occasioned such civil dissentions amongst the chiefs of Poona as did not subside for many years; and to these civil broils and discords of the Mahrattas, Hyder was indebted for all his succeeding glory.

The instant the Mahrattas turned their backs on him, he moved out of Seringapatam with what force he could collect, and marched towards Bengalore, gathering reinforcements as he proceeded, from those few forts, which, from their situation on mountains, had escaped the enemy.

He

He then, in turn, attacked thoſe forts the Mahrattas had poſſeſſed themſelves of, ſo that in a little time he rid his country of theſe deſtructive freebooters.

By theſe means he ſoon reſtored tranquillity to his territories, and, after giving every encouragement to the miſerable inhabitants, to return and rebuild their villages, and to commence the cultivation of their lands, turned his whole thoughts towards his army, in order to get it reinſtated as ſoon as poſſible.

It is aſtoniſhing to relate, that only after a few years peace, this man, from his abilities and perſeverance, had raiſed a body of troops almoſt ſurpaſſing credit; viz.

CAVALRY.

	Men.
Thoſe mounted on his own horſes	8,000
Hired, who found their own horſes	12,000

SEPOYS.

Armed, cloathed, and officered with Europeans, and guns attached to them - - -	20,000
European deſerters of divers nations	114

 Matchlock

Matchlock men and peons -	10,000
Rocket men - - -	6,000
Black artillery men - -	700
Brafs field guns - - -	40
Camels for carrying rockets -	500
Elephants - - -	200

Draught and carriage bullocks without number.

SEPOYS in the different Garrifons.

	Men.
In Seringapatam - -	3,000
Biddenore and diftrict - -	5,000
Bengalore - - -	3,000
Dindegull - - -	1,000

Exclufive of many other forts, the ftrength of which I have not been able to afcertain. The above account of Hyder's force was in the year 1775, from which time, until the year 1780, an uninterrupted peace reigned throughout Hyder's dominions.

The latter end of July 1780, Hyder entered the Carnatic, and on the 29th of that month he detached a confiderable body of horfe and looteys, who, by forced marches, furprized and plundered Porto Novo (which place has always been deemed a free port for all

all nations) without diſtinction of nation, or caſt—carried away priſoners the Dutch and Daniſh Reſidents, which plainly marked his principal intent to extirpate all Europeans from the peninſula of India; this, I am confident in opinion, was his motive for undertaking this war. This ſurprize at Porto Novo ſpread a general alarm throughout the whole Coaſt of Coromandel, and created a complete ſcene of confuſion. Nay, even the Nabob of Arcot's Killedars, or Governors, were panic ſtruck at Hyder's being in the Carnatic, eſpecially thoſe in command of the following frontier garriſons; viz. Trinomally, Chittaputt, Arnee, Dobygurr, Chuckleyputt, &c. likewiſe Carrangoley and Chilembrum, near the coaſt, were immediately ſurrendered with the garriſons, without the leaſt reſiſtance; and, in that remarkable ſtrong hold Gingee, where an European officer was ſtationed with one company of ſepoys, he was abſolutely fired on by the Nabob's people, who had fled from an attack that was made on the lower fort, as he was making his way to the upper fort for its defence; by theſe proceedings, it

is

is obvious, that thoſe villains the Killedars, were bribed by Hyder; the chief Pollygàrs of Worriapollam and Arrialòre alſo joined him.

In the mean time, while Hyder was ravaging the country, and making conqueſt of the aforeſaid places, the Engliſh were collecting all their force under the command of Sir Hector Munro at Conjeveram.

The 8th of September 1780, Major General Sir Hector Munro had intelligence of a detachment coming from the northward under Colonel Bailley, to join his army at Conjèveram, and were already arrived at Perambaucam; part of Hyder's army being then encamped nearly in the route by which Colonel Bailey's detachment ſhould come, under the command of Tippoo Saib. On the evening of that day, the General ordered a detachment to march under Colonel Fletcher, in order to meet and rèinforce Colonel Bailley, conſiſting of one light infantry, and three European grenadier companies, a ſepoy company of markſmen, and ten ſepoy grenadier companies; as alſo ſome camels loaded with gun ammunition, who had

had the good fortune to arrive safe before morning at Perambaucam, and joined Colonel Bailley; the arrival of this strong reinforcement spread the greatest confidence through Bailley's camp, and no doubt was entertained of their being able to make their way good to Conjeveram. Colonel Bailley marched on the evening of the 9th, about eight o'clock, in the following order; viz. The company of marksmen formed the advanced guard; the main body, composed of the Europeans, making six companies of grenadiers, light infantry and battalion men, with the ten sepoy grenadier companies formed into two battalions, and two battalions of sepoys; one battalion of six companies covered the doolies baggage and stores upon the left flank, and six companies of sepoy grenadiers composed the rear guard; the field pieces, being six pounders, except four three pounders, were equally divided along the line, except two guns that were with the rear guard. The whole was in number about 3,500, under Colonel Bailley's command, who, previous to the march, directed, that all orders from Lieutenant Colonel

Colonel Fletcher were to be obeyed. The detachment marched in ſub-diviſions.

About half a mile from Perambaucani, they fell in with a ſmall party of Hyder's horſe on a plain, which was fired upon, and diſperſed by a platoon from the advanced guard, after it had repeatedly challenged the detachment. This gave the alarm to Tippoo Saib, whoſe camp was cloſe by, and from whom indeed it was otherwiſe impoſſible to conceal their march, as he had many ſmall picquets on the look out. Their rocket men, and other irregular rabble, then came upon their flanks, who were drove off from time to time by the flank guards.

In this manner the detachment proceeded for five or ſix miles, when ſome horſe appeared on their left, near their rear guard, on which they were fired upon with the two guns. The front of the line had juſt then entered an avenue, through which their road lay, and Colonel Bailley ordering a halt, and facing to the right about, formed to the rear, except the advanced guard, which ſtill kept its front.

The baggage, &c. with its covering battalions paſſing over from the left to the right flank; Hyder's people diſappearing again, and there being no future ſign of any attack on that quarter, the troops returned nearly to their former order of march, but the halt was continued. They were a very ſhort time in this poſition, when ſome of Hyder's guns opened upon their left, nearly oppoſite their centre; on which five companies of ſepoy grenadiers, under Capt. Rumley, advanced out of the line to take them, but they being ſtopped by a water courſe which run parallel to the line, that attempt was deſiſted from. The fire being now returned from the guns of the line, although ſufficiently near, did little execution, and was irregularly continued, as Hyder's guns being ſeveral times ſhifted, and they ſoon ceaſed firing. The eſcort with the baggage having, by ſome miſtake, moved on from the right flank, whilſt the line was halted, it required ſome time to bring it back to its proper ſtation. During this interval, from ſome falſe alarm, a diviſion upon the left of the line fired, and the

the fire ran along to the right through the whole line, without any word of command from any officer, although no enemy was in view. This is one of those accidents which sometimes happen in the best disciplined armies, and is hard to be accounted for. This firing was soon put a stop to.

A body of Hyder's infantry that lay concealed in the water course, or close behind it, and near the head of their line, and seemingly placed there by way of ambuscade, being now discovered, and fired on by their flank-guards, were obliged to retreat in confusion.

The baggage had by this time returned to their proper place, and nothing now prevented the detachment from proceeding, which, from the guns being limbered again, appeared to be Colonel Bailley's intention; but he, contrary to the declared opinion of Colonel Fletcher, took the most fatal resolution of remaining where he was all night.

The causeless firing that had happened in the line, and the baggage with its escort having gone astray in the dark, might possibly be his reasons, as he was heard to say, that

that he wiſhed for day-light. He accordingly made a diſpoſition, and they lay on their arms until day break, unmoleſted by the enemy; who, no doubt, employed this interval, which was for them moſt lucky, in preparing to annoy them, when they could do it more effectually.

Next morning, being the 10th, they marched again before ſun-riſe, much in the ſame order as before. Tippoo Saib, with his army, were ſoon perceived upon the left, through ſome trees and underwood, moving abreaſt of them, with ſome parties of horſe in Bailley's front, and on his right flank. The detachment proceeded near two miles in the avenue, when upon its entering an open plain, on which the road turned off to the left, four or five of Tippoo Saib's guns opened from that quarter, though at a conſiderable diſtance. On this Bailley again halted, and ordered the cannonade to be returned, whilſt the troops remained in crowded order, partly in the avenue, and partly under cover of ſome banks, and a hollow way at the entrance of the plain; Tippoo Saib's rocket men advancing,

advancing, as uſual, and his main body keeping at a great diſtance among ſome trees and underwood, in the rear of their guns. In a few minuets after this, Col. Bailley ordered out Captain Rumley, with the two ſepoy grenadier battalions, (ten companies) to advance and take theſe guns; they accordingly marched out, and Colonel Fletcher ordered a battalion of ſepoys to ſupport them; but this was countermanded by Bailley, and the company of ſepoy markſmen only, which formed the advanced guard, was, after ſome little time, diſpatched after them. About the time the grenadier ſepoys had reached and taken the neareſt gun, from which and the two next, the enemy fled at their approach; Captain Rumley himſelf being then out of breath, ſent on Captain Gowdie, with the front battalion, to take the others; and when the officer of the markſmen came up, he found the rear battalion halted, and in unmoleſted poſſeſſion of three guns, none of the enemy being near; he therefore drew up his company at the firſt gun, to which, in a minute or two, Captain Rumley came back himſelf,

himself, and the grenadiers nearest to it fell back, crowding in disorder, but from what cause he knew not. A little before this, and after the grenadiers and marksmen had been detached, Hyder's main army was perceived in full march towards Bailley's right, and his headmost body of horse coming on, made an irregular charge on the line. Capt. Rumley and the officer of the marksmen were then at the nearest gun, and the former, probably from an apprehension of being cut off from the main body, ordered a retreat to a water-course that lay between them and the line. The marksmen and a party of the sepoy grenadiers that had been drawn up at the gun, accordingly moved that way, but the rest of the sepoy grenadiers crowding upon them from behind, soon put their ranks in disorder, and that part of the water-course they came to being a deep cut, the sepoys as they reached it, leaped in, and scrambling up the opposite side, stepped forward as they got out to regain the line. Thus the whole party got by degrees in a confused run, it not being in the power of the officers to prevent it,

and its rear being pressed upon by Tippoo Saib's horse, who pursued upon seeing the disorder; they, however, were stopped by the water-course, but a few of them getting round the end of it, came in time enough to cut down several of the sepoy grenadiers, before they could reach the line; and the guns that were taken, being thus abandoned, were immediately repossessed by Tippoo Saib's people. The advanced body of horse from Hyder's own army, had been repulsed before the grenadier's returned; these soon got into order again, and took their station in their line. Hyder's army was then fast approaching upon Colonel Bailley's right flank; but though a sufficient space intervened, during which there was no cannonade, nor body of horse on the plain near enough to interrupt or prevent it, no manœuvre was undertaken, or any other disposition made, but the detachment remained crowded up in the same manner as it entered the plain, the troops not having room even to use their arms freely, and part of one battalion was obliged to move out of the line altogether, most of the corps being

being now in a ſetting poſture, and the baggage, doolies, &c. confuſedly ſcattered about. It may be here remarked, that no attempt was made to reconnoitre the ground. There was a village in ſight, that lay on the road about half a mile in front, and nothing could have prevented them from gaining it, and taking poſt there, had they marched any time before the arrival of Hyder's army, as the water-courſe before mentioned would have covered their left flank, as the avenue might their right, had they been drawn out in order of battle; but nothing was done, no meaſure taken, either for offence or defence. Hyder's van was ſoon within cannon ſhot, and his foremoſt guns opened immediately; as did about the ſame time, thoſe that Tippoo Saib had retaken, and the reſt of Hyder's as they came up, until there was upwards of fifty brought to bear upon this poor detachment, devoted to deſtruction. Colonel Bailley's ten guns returned this unequal fire, until their ammunition was exhauſted; and this was haſtened by the blowing up of two tumbrils of fixed ammunition, which laid open

one intire face of their column, deſtroyed their artillery, and threw the whole into irreparable confuſion.

Tippoo Saib, obſerving this accident, took immediate advantage thereof, and with his cavalry made a rapid charge, penetrated their broken ſquare, and being followed by the French corps, and the infantry of his firſt line, compleated the overthrow of this gallant little band. Their ſepoys being moſtly cut to pieces, while Colonel Bailley, although much wounded, rallied his Europeans, and once more formed them into a ſquare, under the fire of the whole of Hyder's cannon.

With this handful of men he gained a ſmall eminence on the plain; where, without ammunition, and moſt of his men grievouſly wounded, he reſiſted and repulſed thirteen ſeparate attacks; but freſh bodies of horſe continually pouring in, they were borne down by numbers, without giving way, and trod under foot by the elephants and horſe.

This victory coſt the Myſore army very dear, as the ſlaughter of their beſt troops

was

was immenſe; and nothing but the accident of the tumbrils could have ſaved Hyder from a total defeat. Had the good genius of the Engliſh brought up their troops from Conjeveram, during the battle, the Myſore army muſt have been inevitably ruined—not one battalion of foot, or a ſingle gun, would have probably eſcaped.

Hyder, with his whole army, returned to his camp at Damul, diſtant about ſix miles from the place of action. All the priſoners that could be moved were carried thither; though many of the wounded, and amongſt theſe ſome officers, remained on the ground, after being ſtripped by the plunderers, to periſh miſerably. Hyder, ſoon after he arrived in his camp, had Colonel Bailley and the reſt brought before him, as they came in, ordering rewards to thoſe who took them. Some of the heads of the ſlain, which was preſented before him, though to ſay the truth, he ſeemed to take no great pleaſure in this horrid ſpectacle, but rather ſhewed diſpleaſure, when any of the priſoners were

brought in, all over mangled and covered with wounds. The wounded were dressed by his surgeons, and such assistance and accommodation afforded to all the prisoners, as could be expected in a barbarian camp. They were lodged that night in tents, and carried next day to his fixed camp at Musslevawk, where he moved with his army, after sending off a strong body of horse and foot, under a Monsieur Lally, to harrass General Munro, who, upon the news of Colonel Bailley's destruction, had, upon the night of the 10th, retreated to Chinglepett. The prisoners remained at Musslevawk until the 14th, being visited by the French gentlemen in Hyder's service; and were that day sent off with strong escorts, except Colonel Bailley, and seven other officers of senior rank, who were kept in Hyder's camp.

Twenty-six wounded officers, and the wounded non-commissioned officers and private men, were put into the fort of Arnee; twenty-four, with the rest of the non-commissioned and private, being all that was able to march, proceeded to Bengulore,

gulore, where the officers, and ſuch of the men, as were unable to go farther, were kept, the reſt going on to Seringapatam. Thoſe left at Arnee, were afterwards ſent to Seringapatam as faſt as they recovered, except three or four of the officers, and a great number of the men, who died of their wounds. Colonel Bailley and the others, who were left in Hyder's camp, were likewiſe, in a few months, ſent thither. As for the black officers and ſepoys that were taken, many of them entered into Hyder's ſervice, and the reſt, after ſome time, were ſet at liberty.

Particulars of the Number Killed, Wounded, and taken Priſoners, viz.

Killed on the Field of Action.

Lieutenant-Colonel -	1	
Captains - -	3	
Lieutenants - -	3	
Enſigns - -	18	
Lieutenant Fire-Worker -	1	
Cadet - - -	1	
Surgeon - -	1	
		— 28

Brought forward 28

Died of their Wounds soon afterwards.

Captain - -	1	
Lieutenants - -	2	
Ensigns - -	2	
Lieutenant Fire-Worker -	1	
Cadet - -	1	
Surgeon - -	1	
	—	8

Wounded and Taken.

Lieutenant-Colonel -	1	
Captains - -	6	
Lieutenants - -	13	
Ensigns - -	9	
Cadets - - -	4	
Surgeon - -	1	
	—	34

Not Wounded.

Captains - -	2	
Lieutenants - -	5	
Ensigns - -	6	
Volunteer - -	1	
Cadet - -	1	
Assistant Surgeon - -	1	
	—	16
		Total 86

Nothing

Nothing could ſurpaſs the hardy, deſperate valour, diſplayed by this handful of Engliſhmen and ſepoys, in this general maſſacre. Officers and men ſeemed determined to ſell their lives as dear as poſſible; and although left without a ſingle gun, and their ammunition expended, the officers with their ſwords, and the privates with their bayonets, atchieved prodigies of valour; which Hyder's people ſpeak of with aſtoniſhment. They ſay, that many of the Engliſh, after they were cut down and miſerably wounded, refuſed quarter, and raiſed themſelves from the ground, to puſh with their bayonets to the very laſt.

Their diſaſter was occaſioned by a quantity of looſe ammunition, brought by Col. Fletcher's reinforcement, blowing up, which communicated to the two tumbrils of the line.

The Engliſh army having ſuſtained this heavy loſs, were not able to oppoſe that of Hyder, who, with impunity, traverſed the ſouthern part of the Carnatic.

In April, 1781, Hyder inveſted the fort of Tiagar, ſituate on a high rock, and almoſt

most impregnable, which place was forced to surrender to him, entirely owing to the want of provisions.

After which Hyder entered the Tanjore country, plundering and burning every village in their way; spreading desolation every where; even the Gentoo temples, which hitherto were held sacred by all casts, were plundered of their swamies, or idols, by his people of the Moorish sect.

About this time, a Gentoo subidar, or captain in his service, requested his permission to bear a Gentoo flag, with the figure of the Swamie Annamoontoo on it. On which, Hyder desired to know who this Annamoontoo was; in the course of the subidar's narration, he said Annamoontoo was born of a man; Hyder then observed, his father was certainly the devil, to which the subidar assenting, Hyder ordered a flag to be made, with the figure of a devil evacuating Annamoontoo from behind, which he shrewdly observed, was the only aperture he could escape at; and obliged that subidar's company to bear it. The same

flag

flag was afterwards taken from them by the English, near Negapatam.

In June, Hyder marched towards Tritchenopoly, and, by the latter end of that month, he made forced marches until he came near the English army, then under the command of General Coote, near Porto Novo, imagining the business was compleated as he had in view, that of drawing the English army to the south of Cuddalore, where he did not suppose there would be a probability of their escaping total destruction.

June 30th, Hyder being now within sight of the army under General Coote, made every preparation in order to attack him; but early the next morning, the 1st of July, 1781, he perceived the English army advancing with the same intent to attack him, though consisting only of 1,500 Europeans and 7,000 sepoys. The two armies met, and engaged between Porto Novo and Mootiapollam.

The engagement lasted eight hours, and it was a hard-fought day on both sides. Hyder's army consisted this day of 25 battalions of infantry, 400 Europeans, 40,000 horse,

horſe, and about 100,000 matchlock men, peons, and polygars, with 47 pieces of cannon well-ſerved. The ſecond line of the Engliſh army having occupied ſome heights, by which their rear was ſecured, General Coote advanced with the firſt line towards Hyder's guns, many of which muſt have been taken, if the Engliſh had had a body of cavalry; Hyder made repeated attempts to force the Engliſh lines, and kept up a ſevere cannonade, which, for a long time, the heavy fires of the Engliſh could not ſilence, till at length he was obliged to give way to their ſuperior ſpirit, and ſteadineſs of their ſmall numbers, comparatively ſpeaking to his, and left them maſters of the field. Meer Saib (Hyder's favourite General) received a mortal wound; and, among 4,000 killed, were many of his principal officers. The Engliſh loſt very few officers, but had between three and 400 men killed. Thus ended this glorious battle, which day ſhould be a jubilee to all European nations, who have any poſſeſſions in India; they may conſider it as that on which their fate in India totally depended. Had that day been

loſt,

loſt, I verily believe we ſhould have been deprived of all our poſſeſſions in that country.

In the beginning of Auguſt, General Coote's army was reinforced by a detachment from Bengal, conſiſting of 5,000 men, moſtly ſepoys, which was a very ſeaſonable ſupply; he was then encamped at the Mount, above nine miles from Madras.

I ſhall now leave him and return to the ſouthward, where Major General Sir Hector Munro, K. B. was ordered into the Tanjore country, to take the command of the Company's troops, who were to co-operate with his Majeſty's ſquadron under the command of Sir Edward Hughes, in the attack of Negapatam, who was in hopes of ſoon reducing it, although the garriſon was reinforced by a large detachment of Hyder's troops, and the fortifications conſiderably ſtrengthened by new works. Sir Hector joined the Company's troops at Nagore, on the coaſt, by the 21ſt of October: a corps of marines, conſiſting of 443, officers included, landed from the ſquadron and joined him; the next day a battalion of ſeamen landed,

landed, consisting of 827 men, officers included; also 16 eighteen pounders and two twelves, with two 10-inch, and six 5 and 1-half inch mortars, with a proportionable number of shot, shells, powder, and every essential store, was landed from the squadron on rafts made for that purpose. On the night of the 29th, the strong lines which the enemy had thrown up, flanked by redoubts, to cover and defend the approach to the town, were stormed and carried, in which the seamen and marines bore a principal part. On the 3d of November, General Munro opened ground against the north face of Negapatam, and the approaches were carried on with great rapidity, the squadron laying off the fort to cover the attack. On the 7th, a battery of 10 eighteen pounders, within three hundred paces of the walls of the place, being ready to open, Sir Edward Hughes and Sir Hector Munro thought proper to send the Dutch Governor the following summons:

Camp

Camp before Negapatam, Nov. 7, 1781.

SIR,

AS we are perfectly informed of the weakness of the town and citadel of Negapatam, and the smallness of the garrison you have to defend it, against the ships and troops of his Britannic Majesty, and the East-India Company under our command, of whose great superiority, in proportion, numbers, and discipline, you cannot be ignorant.

We are induced from motives of humanity, in order to avoid the effusion of blood, and of regard to you and the inhabitants of the place, to prevent, if in our power, the distresses and calamities that may befall you and them, to demand of you the immediate surrender of the place, on such terms as appear to us reasonable and consistent, and you and we may agree upon; for this purpose we give two hours from the time this summons is delivered to you, to deliberate on an answer: if you agree to surrender on capitulation, Commissioners are immediately to be sent on your part to the General in camp; but if you reject the offer now made you, the batteries will immediately open against

against your walls, and you will yourſelf be the cauſe of more diſadvantageous terms on a latter day. We have the honour to be, with great regard, &c. &c.

(Signed)

EDWARD HUGHES,
HECTOR MUNRO.

To REYNER VAN VLISSENGEN, Governor of Negapatam.

The Governor being indiſpoſed, they received from the ſecond in command, the following anſwer:

To the Honourable Sir EDWARD HUGHES, *K. B. Vice Admiral of the Blue, Commander of his Britannic Majeſty's Naval Forces, and the Honorable Sir* HECTOR MUNRO, *Commander of his Britannic Majeſty's Military Forces, &c. &c.*

SIRS,

I Have had the honor, juſt now, to receive the letter you was pleaſed to write me, containing the ſummation to deliver over this place.

And as I am obliged, by honor and oath, to defend this place with all my power, I cannot

cannot enter into any agreement regarding the ſurrendering of the ſame, but ſhall, when you reſolve to attack me, defend myſelf with the forces that I have on hand.

I have the honor to be,

SIRS,

With great reſpect,

Your moſt humble obedient ſervant,

By the indiſpoſition of the Governor, (Signed) MOSSELL.

Negapatam, Nov. 7, 1781.

During the courſe of the ſiege, the enemy made two deſperate ſallies with the greater part of the garriſon, but were both times beat back into the town with much loſs.

In the afternoon of the 10th, the breaching battery being ready, four 18-pounders were got into it, and opened on the face of the baſtion intended to be breached, with good effect; in the night four more 18-pounders were got into the ſame battery, and all opened on the breached baſtion at day-light, and ſoon after the enemy demanded a parley, and ſent out two Commiſ-

ſioners to the General in camp with terms of capitulation. In the mean time, hoſtilities ceaſed on both ſides; and, early on the morning of the 12th, Sir Edward Hughes landed and came to camp, and, with the General, Sir Hector Munro, received the Commiſſaries there about ten o'clock, when the capitulation was agreed to, and after being ſent into the town to be ratified by the Governor and his Council, was counterſigned by Sir Edward Hughes and Sir Hector Munro, at two o'clock, and the gates of both town and citadel were put in poſſeſſion of the Engliſh troops.

I ſhall only take notice of the 20th article of the capitulation, which immediately concerns Hyder's troops; viz.

Art. XX. To all the aid troops belonging to the Nabob Hyder Ally Cawn Bahauder, which are in this place, a free paſs to Combiconum ſhall be granted.

Anſwered. Granted, on delivering up their arms, and proceeding to Hyder's country, not to Combiconum.

The

The garriſon conſiſted in all of about 8,000 men, of which about 500 Europeans, regulars, and militia, 700 malays, 4,500 ſepoys, and 2,300 of Hyder's troops, of whom 1,000 were cavalry, and run away on the firſt charge at the attack of the enemy's lines, and never came near the place after, but kept at a diſtance, plundering and burning the villages; and moſt of the malays and ſepoys threw aways their arms, and deſerted the garriſon through the weſtern gate, in the night between the 11th and 12th, during the truce.

The killed and wounded, during this ſhort ſiege, were very inconſiderable.

A detachment of the Company's troops were ſent on board the ſquadron, to go with Sir Edward Hughes to Trincomale, in order to reduce it, to which place he ſailed immediately, on adjuſting matters at Negapatam, where General Munro remained with the Company's troops.

Dec. 1781. The Governor of Bombay had now ſent a ſtrong reinforcement of troops to Tellicherry, which place was then beſieged by Hyder's troops, where they ar-

rived about the 30th; and Major Abingdon, with thoſe, and a part of their former garriſon, marched out from the Braſs Pagoda, the 8th of January 1782, acroſs the Paddy Fields to the eaſtward, paſſed two of Hyder's advanced poſts, and got round to the eaſtward of Great Putney Hill, between that and Ponnolla Mella. The advanced party under Captain Whippey, immediately attacked, ſtormed, and took the former, without the loſs of a man on his ſide. The main body immediately puſhed for Hyder's camp, and came upon them juſt at day-break, whom they fell on and put to the route; when they followed them to the ſouthward as far as Currachee, a ſmall fort about one mile to the northward of Michie River; this poſt they preſently carried, and turned its guns upon them, who were making their way towards the river. Saddos Cawn (Hyder's brother-in-law and General, who commanded this army) had made this poſt his head-quarters, quitted it, and got to a fortified houſe, encloſed within walls, where he, with ſeveral of his people, made an obſtinate defence; but at laſt the roof of the houſe

houſe was ſet on fire, which obliged them to quit it, when many were killed endeavouring to make their eſcape. Saddos Cawn had ſecreted himſelf in part of the encloſure, which was bomb-proof, cut into the hill, where he and his family were found; himſelf had been wounded by a muſquet-ball in the ancle, and was not able to move; they were all immediately ſeized, and ſent in priſoners to Tellicherry, with about 1,500 priſoners, which had been made during the morning; there was about 400 of them killed and drowned. The Engliſh had about 50 killed and wounded, and only one officer hurt; they took ſix braſs field-pieces, about 60 iron cannon, with four mortars: alſo 13 elephants, and a large quantity of powder, ſhot, and other ſtores, in their redoubts and batteries.

The ſame evening, about ſeven o'clock, Lieut. Hodges was ſent away with a ſtrong detachment againſt Fort George, of which the enemy getting intelligence, they evacuated it, and he took quiet poſſeſſion thereof.

About two o'clock in the morning a ſtrong party was ſent over the river, and took poſſeſſion of Mihie; and another party, under Captain Whippey, went and took poſſeſſion of Durmapatam, which iſland they found deſerted by the enemy. In ſhort, there was not a man of Hyder's left between Cotta Point, five leagues to the ſouthward, and to the northward as far as Cannanore.

I muſt now return to take notice of the army under General Coote, which had been reinforced by a detachment from Bengal, as before noticed; his next object was to march, in order to relieve Wandewaſh, which was inveſted by a ſtrong detachment under Hyder's ſon, Tippoo Saib, who had begun to raiſe batteries, and to make other neceſſary preparations for a ſiege.

The General's movements had the deſired effect, as Tippoo Saib, upon hearing of his approach, drew off, and took the route by Gingee, by which road Hyder had moved towards Arcot, which place he alſo took without oppoſition.

On the 20th of Auguſt the General marched and ſat down before Tripaſſore, and

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on the 23d in the morning, it ſurrendered on terms of capitulation. This acquiſition of conſequence, and happening at the time it did, was a moſt fortunate one, as the advance of Hyder's army coming to the relief of the beſieged, had, in that very moment, appeared in ſight, and there only remained in camp one day's rice.

By means of the Paddy found in the fort, he was enabled to ſerve out a few days ſubſiſtence to the troops; and hearing that Hyder was in full force, at the diſtance of ſixteen miles, he reſolved to march towards him; but before he could attempt it, he found it neceſſary to draw ſome rice from Pondamalee, which having done, he marched on the 26th in order to engage Hyder, as the only hope that appeared to him left, from whence he might ſtand a chance of ſurmounting other difficulties.

On General Coote's advancing, Hyder thought proper to fall back a few miles, to the ground on which he had defeated the detachment under Colonel Bailley, when he took up a very ſtrong poſition; and, influenced from a ſuperſtitious notion of its

being a lucky ſpot, had determined, as the General was informed, to try his fortune in a ſecond battle. On the 27th in the morning, the General moved towards him, and, about eight o'clock, diſcovered Hyder's army in order of battle, and in full force to receive him, and in poſſeſſion of many ſtrong and advantageous poſts, rendered the more formidable by the nature of the country lying between, which was interſected by very deep water-courſes. To preſent a front to them, the General was obliged to form the line under a very heavy cannonade from ſeveral batteries, which galled his army exceedingly, who bore it with a firmneſs and undaunted bravery which did them the higheſt honour, and ſhewed a ſteady valour, not to be ſurpaſſed by the firſt veterans of any nation in Europe. The action laſted from nine in the morning till near ſun-ſet, when he had drove Hyder's people from all their ſtrong poſts, and obliged them to retreat with precipitation, leaving him in full poſſeſſion of the field of battle. The loſs of the Engliſh on this occaſion was heavier than on the 1ſt of July, and that of Hyder leſs, owing to their

their having ſheltered themſelves under cover of banks of tanks, and other grounds, which they poſſeſſed favourable for that purpoſe. General Stuart had the misfortune to loſe his leg by a cannon ſhot, whilſt bravely conducting the ſecond line to the ſupport of a poſt which the Engliſh had occupied at the commencement of the engagement, and on which Hyder had kept a very ſevere fire; the ſame ſhot alſo carried away the leg of Colonel Brown, and having cauſed his death, deprived the Company of a very old and faithful ſervant. Captain Hiſlop, one of the Generals' Aids de Camp, was alſo killed by a cannon-ſhot.

By this time the garriſon of Vellore was in great diſtreſs for proviſions, as Hyder had kept a flying party hovering about it, whereby all communication was cut off. General Coote reſolved to march to its relief; as Hyder had alſo taken that route, who, by his different movements, impeded the General's march for ſome time. However, on the 27th of September, the General diſcovered Hyder's encampment, and from the diſpoſition he could perceive Hyder had

made

made of his troops, was ſatisfied that he meant to try the event of another battle; the General immediately advanced, and both armies were cloſely engaged before four o'clock in the afternoon, and, by evening, Hyder was once more completely routed. The loſs of the Engliſh on this occaſion was very trifling, whilſt Hyder's was very conſiderable, both in cavalry and infantry, as they had not the convenience of banks, &c. to creep behind as on the 27th of Auguſt. The Engliſh had but one ſubaltern officer killed, and about 100 rank and file killed, wounded, and miſſing. The General ſtill wanting to throw in another ſupply of proviſſons to Vellore, Colonel Owen was detached with a party on this ſervice; he was attacked by the whole of Hyder's army, the efforts of which he bravely reſiſted, and made an able retreat on the 23d of October: he loſt only 160 killed and wounded. Hyder loſt about 800, moſtly horſe.

General Coote immediately marched for Vellore, where he arrived the 4th of November, and threw in ſome freſh ſupplies of proviſions, though but little, all he could

ſpare

ſpare at preſent, without which, in four or five days more, muſt either have been evacuated, or given up to the enemy; the General then proceeded to Chittor, to which he laid ſiege on the 8th, and the place capitulated on the 10th.

Vellore being once more in diſtreſs for proviſions, it was neceſſary that the army ſhould again march to its relief.

The General having made his arrangements on the 2d of December, he marched the army towards Vellore; Hyder had aſſembled all his people, in full force, on the weſtern banks of the Poni River: on the Engliſh approaching near, which was on the evening of the 9th, he decamped and retreated with precipitation towards Lallapet, and left the General to take up their ground in quiet: diſtance about twelve miles from Vellore. The next morning, about ten o'clock, while the General was on the march, and the army then croſſing a deep moraſs, their rear and left flank were attacked by a diſtant cannonade from Hyder, whoſe different manœuvres were evidently with a view to impede his progreſs to Vellore,

Vellore, and to attack his baggage and convoy. Hyder having been compl t ly foiled in all his attempts to that end, thought proper to retire about three o'clock in the afternoon, after having kept up a heavy fire for about four hours. The loſs of the Engliſh, on this occaſion, was one Lieutenant, 19 native rank and file, killed; two Lieutenants, two Europeans rank and file, one ſubidar, and 35 ſepoys rank and file, wounded; one European and four ſepoys miſſing.

The General then proſecuted his march, and encamped, for the night, within four miles of Vellore; he arrived the next morning, being the 11th, the very day to which he had been pre-adviſed by the commanding officer of the garriſon, the proviſions would laſt.

A halting day was now abſolutely neceſſary for the refreſhment of the troops, and draught and carriage cattle; ſo that the General did not march back until the 13th, on which day Hyder appeared in full force, and choſe again to make an attack by a diſtant cannonade on him, whilſt the army was croſſing the ſame marſhy ground, where he attacked

attacked him before, on the 10th, in going. About four o'clock in the afternoon, the whole had got clear over the ſwamp, and, having poſted the baggage with a proper guard, the General formed the line, and advanced upon Hyder with all the expedition the nature of the ground would admit of; upon which he gave way, and retreated once more with precipitation. The Engliſh purſued him till dark, doing great execution; then returned to their intended ground of encampment about midnight, whoſe loſs on this affair was only one officer wounded, with about 60 rank and file, black and white, killed, wounded and miſſing; whilſt Hyder's muſt have been treble that number, by what they could ſee laying in the way, during the purſuit.

I muſt now leave General Coote, and obſerve what is doing to the ſouthward.

In the month of February 1782, Lieutenant Colonel Braithwaite was encamped with a ſtrong detachment near the village of Valletoole, in the Tanjore country, near the River Colleroon.

Tippoo Saib was alſo detached from Hyder's army with a powerful party of horſe and foot, and encamped on the oppoſite ſide the ſaid River, a few miles diſtant from Colonel Braithwaite's party.

On the morning of the 17th inſtant, the Colonel received intelligence, that a large body of Tippoo's horſe had croſſed the River, with an intention to cut ſome green rice for their horſes, on which he ordered out Lieutenant Sampſon, with ſome cavalry under his command, to drive them off; the Colonel, in the mean time, rode to an eminence which commanded a view of the River, from whence he beheld, at a little diſtance, the whole of Tippoo's party, with their guns and elephants then croſſing the River; on which he rode back to his camp, and immediately got them under arms: likewiſe ſent an order to recall Lieutenant Sampſon with his cavalry, who, with the greateſt difficulty, effected his retreat, with the loſs of ſeveral men and horſes.

By this time the line being ready, the Colonel detached four companies of ſepoys to the village in his rear, where all the proviſions

visions of his party were deposited, in charge of the Casbarry and his people, who was a renter of that district under the Rajah of Tanjore.

This village was strongly stockaded, the sepoys had scarcely crossed a water-course that ran near it, but they were fired on from four guns belonging to Tippoo Saib.

The Casbarry had been bribed by Tippoo Saib, and, during the preceding night, had admitted three battalions of his sepoys, with four guns, to take possession of the village. The Colonel being thus betrayed, lost all his provisions; and by this time, Tippoo's van were arrived, and commenced a cannonade from 20 guns, while the main body of his party moved round towards the Colonel's rear, on which the Colonel called in his advanced picquet, and made his rear his front, as Tippoo's greatest efforts were made from that quarter, whose cavalry made several charges, and were as often repulsed with great loss.

Part of Tippoo's infantry now possessed the post which the Colonel's advanced picquet had left, and another party possessed

themselves

themſelves of ſome high banks on the Colonel's left, from whence they cannonaded him from four 24-pounders, which did great havock, as they continued firing all that day.

At this time there being three ſmall detachments out from the garriſon of Tanjore, collecting proviſions for a ſtore in caſe of a ſiege, and the Colonel well-knowing, that if he did not divert the intention of Tippoo Saib, they might in all probability be cut off by a detachment of his, which might have been eaſily effected, as his party was ſo powerful. The Colonel, therefore, moſt generouſly determined to abide the conſequence of holding out againſt him as long as he could, which would give the Tanjore detachments time to return to their garriſon, as the event juſtified his choice.

About ten o'clock that night the Colonel marched, with intention to take poſt in the Pagoda of Videauefcoil, where he thought it poſſible to hold out until the next night, although without proviſions, and afterwards by a forced march to reach the town of Trivalore, and from thence to go to Nega-

patam.

patam. These designs were practicable, as drowning people are apt to catch at every twig that might afford them a prospect of safety; but here his designs were frustrated by the villainy of his herricar, or guide, who led the party out of their way, over rice-fields and water-courses, one of which took them four hours to cross, with their guns and tumbrils, &c.

Tippoo Saib, all this time, had not the least idea that the Colonel would presume to move, therefore had made no preparation to oppose him, and it was four o'clock in the morning before he knew any thing of their being moved off.

Had it not been for those unforeseen halts, they would have certainly reached the aforementioned pagoda early in the morning of the 18th. Tippoo Saib's advanced party arrived in sight, and commenced a heavy cannonade without doing much execution; they being kept at a respectable distance by the Colonel's flanking guards, and the country being enclosed, hindered Tippoo's cavalry from acting.

About eleven o'clock they reached a large choultry (a ſtone building for travellers to reſt in) on the ſide of a village, where was a thick grove of trees; here Tippoo had prepared an ambuſcade of about 300 horſe, not above 50 yards from the road through which they were to paſs; theſe charged them, and rode quite through their line, but evidently with the greateſt confuſion and fear on their part: they attempted to return the ſame way, but by this time the ſepoys had cloſed their ranks, and gave them a warm but an irregular fire, ſo that very few eſcaped who made this charge. In caſe this charge had taken the deſired effect, by putting the whole party in confuſion, they were to have been ſupported by another large party, who were in readineſs to embrace the advantage; as it is a fact, that Tippoo had given them ſtrict orders to cut every European to pieces.

The ſepoys, when once they had began firing, could not by any means be reſtrained, but continued it while they had a cartridge left; and the gun ammunition being nearly expended, the ſepoys were alſo in a terrible confuſion, being now under no

ſort

ſort of ſubordination, but running about in ſearch of their wives and children. Tippoo's party had by this time completely ſurrounded them, and ready to fall on from every ſide; on which ſome of the officers repreſenting to the Colonel the impoſſibility of holding out any longer, determined him to *aſk quarter*, which was immediately granted.

Side Saib, one of Tippoo's Generals, advanced and told the Colonel, that the lives of his party ſhould be ſaved; and whatever of their baggage that could be preſerved from the general plunder, ſhould be reſtored to them: however, they had but a ſmall part of it returned.

As ſoon as the confuſion was a little ſubſided, Tippoo Saib ordered all the Engliſh officers to be brought to him, when, after examining them, they were ſent into the village, accompanied by one of his French ſurgeons, to dreſs thoſe that were wounded.

The next morning, Tippoo ſent them a few pieces of fine callico cloth, to make them clothes; alſo four pieces of a coarſer ſort, for bandages for their wounds; like-

wiſe thirty pagodas, 12l. ſterling, with further aſſurance, that they ſhould have whatever they wanted; by theſe means, they were induced to entertain a favourable idea of his character for the preſent; but afterwards they woefully experienced the contrary. Such was the fate of this gallant little party; many of whom were killed and wounded, and the reſt taken priſoners.

After this nothing of conſequence happened until the latter end of March, when the French had a ſquadron of ſhips arrived from Europe, with a conſiderable body of land-forces, whom they landed at Porto Nova; and now being free from any apprehenſions of the Engliſh ſouthern army, whilſt that of Hyder kept General Coote from making any ſudden attack on them from the northward, they proceeded with the greateſt ſecurity to Cuddalore, which being weak and incapable of holding out any time, was, on the 4th of April, 1782, ſurrendered on terms of capitulation; immediately after this the French ſent a ſtrong reinforcement of Europeans to Hyder's camp, who, now on the 12th, moved to Permacoil and inveſted.

veſted it, and that place ſurrendered on terms, on the 17th.

General Coote, from his intelligence, had every reaſon to believe, that the French and Hyder would march immediately to attack Wandewaſh; he therefore marched his army towards it with all poſſible diſpatch, in full perſuaſion, that they would have met him there, and tried a deciſive action; but he arrived there without receiving the ſmalleſt oppoſition: apprehending, however, leſt they might be in doubt about his deſire of bringing them to action, and convinced that they would not ſeek him in the neighbourhood of Wandewaſh, where he could have received them to great advantage, whereupon he determined to advance towards them. He accordingly made two marches in the direct road to the ground, on which he had obſerved them, from the hill of Wandewaſh, to be encamped; but on his approach they fell back, and both by his intelligence, and by what they could diſcover from the heights near his camp, they had taken up their ſtation on the Red Hills near Pondicherry. This was a poſi-

tion in itſelf ſo ſtrong, and could, by an army of ſuch magnitude as Hyder's, ſupported by an European force, far exceeding the numbers in his army, be occupied to ſo great advantage, that he judged it expedient to lay his intelligence and ſentiments before the two next officers in command, Major General Stuart and Colonel Lang, that he might have the benefit of their opinions on a matter of ſuch momentous importance, and on the iſſue of which depended the whole of the Britiſh intereſts in India.

Upon a reference to the council of war, which was held on this occaſion, the idea the General ſuggeſted, of drawing the enemy from their ſtrong hold, by moving in a direction, which would effectually check Hyder's ſupplies, and alarm him for the ſafety of his grand magazine at Arnee, was unanimouſly approved.

In conformity to that plan, the General marched on the 30th of May, and on the 1ſt of June encamped at the diſtance of five miles from Arnee. That day he received intelligence, that Hyder, on hearing the

route

route he had taken, marched immediately, and that the advance of his army had arrived the preceding evening at Deſſoor, diſtant from the General about twenty-five miles; who was thereby ſatisfied, that the effect he had in view had taken place: he immediately ordered a proper place to be reconnoitred for poſting his baggage, in caſe he ſhould find it adviſeable to go and meet Hyder, or to receive him on the ground he then occupied.

Early in the morning of the 2d, the General received intelligence, that Hyder and the French were arrived at Chittepett, about eleven miles diſtant from him. His army being then under orders of march to proceed nearer Arnee, which he was encouraged to believe might prove an eaſy acquiſition; and which, by the large ſtock of proviſions it contained, added to the extreme fitneſs of its ſituation, opened to him no leſs a proſpect than the total expulſion of Hyder from the Carnatic. In the General's then poſition, with Hyder's army on the one ſide, and an object of ſuch magnitude on the other, it became a point of de-

 liberation,

liberation, which was the moſt eligible line of conduct to be adopted; to perſevere in his original intention of threatening Arnee, (which Hyder had moſt undoubtedly came to cover) and thereby bring on an action, or to advance and engage them; he preferred the former, as it promiſed the moſt certain iſſue upon the mind of Hyder, whoſe ſole view evidently was to ſave his grand magazine. It was equal to him, whether he accompliſhed that by diverting the General's attention from it, or by giving him battle. But it is reaſonable to imagine, that if he ſucceeded on the former grounds, he would hardly, after having ſuffered four defeats, put any thing to riſk on the latter.

The General, therefore, commenced his march towards Arnee, contiguous to which the advance of his army had arrived, and had begun to mark out the ground for the encampment, when a diſtant cannonade opened on his rear, and which was the firſt annunciation he had of Hyder's having approached ſo near him in force. His coming upon him thus ſuddenly, proceeded from his being able to cover the march of

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his line of infantry, by his large bodies of horſe, and which having generally been the companions of the General's movements, during the whole of the war, were never to be conſidered as any poſitive proof of his army being at hand.

Every diſpatch was uſed in making the neceſſary diſpoſitions for repelling the attack, and coming to action. The line being then in a low ſituation, with high and commanding ground all round, which as Hyder had got poſſeſſion of, the General's manœuvres were performed under every diſadvantage, and expoſed to a heavy, though diſtant cannonade. It was not until near mid-day, that he had reduced Hyder's various attacks into one ſettled point, ſo as to advance upon them with effect, and with a proſpect of advantage; but ſo ſoon as that was accompliſhed, he puſhed on, and Hyder gave way: he purſued them till the evening was far advanced, taking from them in their retreat one gun and five tumbrils, and two carts loaded with ammunition.

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The General remained at this advanced ſtation to the laſt moment the ſtate of his proviſions would admit of; and when obliged to fall back for his ſupplies, he endeavoured to do it with all the credit poſſible, by again ſeeking for Hyder, who, by intelligence, had encamped with his army contiguous to a road the General might march. Hyder retreated before him with precipitation, although in poſſeſſion of ground which he could have diſputed to advantage. The General purſued his march the next day, by the ſame road on which Hyder had retreated, but found that he had turned off, and croſſed the country towards Arnee.

On the 8th of June, whilſt the General was encamped near Trivetore, and when he had halted a day to refreſh the troops and cattle, his grand guard was moſt unfortunately drawn into an ambuſcade of about 6000 of Hyder's choſen horſe, and totally cut off before any ſupport could be afforded.

At this time the General received intelligence from Bombay, that a peace was concluded

concluded between the Engliſh and the Mahrattas the 17th of May laſt.

Nothing of conſequence happened to either army for the four following months.

The monſoons being now ſet in, both armies were ſettled in their different cantonments; when advice was received of Hyder's death, who had but juſt again taken the field, and encamped near Chittoor. He died on the 9th of November, 1782, occaſioned by a cancer on his back, which he had been troubled with for ſome years; the French ſurgeon who had uſed to dreſs it, attended ſeveral days after his death at his tent, to keep up appearances. His body was conveyed away in a covered dooley, attended by people carrying lighted flambeaus, under pretence of its being one of the ladies of the ſeraglio, and diſpatched to Colar, where he was interred.

Nothing of conſequence being now in agitation here, I muſt take notice of what was tranſacted on the coaſt of Mallabar. About this time the Government of Bombay fitted out a ſtrong force, under command of Brigadier-General Mathews, who

proceeded

proceeded to Onore, which place he ſoon reduced. On his hearing of the death of Hyder, he proceeded to Cundapore, which he alſo reduced after a very ſlight reſiſtance. After which he inveſted and took Mangulore, the 9th of March, 1783; on his attempting to ſtorm the fort, they hung out their flag and ſurrendered. From thence he proceeded towards the Biddenore country, where having taken the gauts, or fortified paſſes, he reached the city of Biddenore, which place he alſo reduced.

At this time ſome miſunderſtandings happening between him and the Government of Bombay, they ſuſpended him from the command of the army, and appointed Colonel M'Leod, a Brigadier-General, to ſucceed him; which gentleman, with others, who were proceeding to Biddenore, were attacked by the Mahrattas, and taken priſoners, but were ſoon after releaſed; the particulars of which being foreign to the hiſtory of Hyder, I ſhall forbear to relate.

Tippoo Saib, on hearing that Biddenore was taken, immediately ſent the greateſt part of his army through the Chaugama

Paſs,

Paſs, out of the Carnatic, and he himſelf ſoon followed, in order to uſe his utmoſt efforts to recover his valuable poſſeſſions in the Biddenore country.

In a letter of the 1ſt of April, 1783, General Mathews ſays, that Tippoo Saib, with 1000 French, 12,000 horſe, and as many infantry, with a large train of artillery, were already arrived within forty-five miles of Biddenore, and purpoſed puſhing on without delay.

The General having been reinforced by ſome of his Majeſty's troops, under command of Captain Fetherſton; on the 9th of April, Tippoo Saib's army appeared in ſight of Biddenore; and about four o'clock in the afternoon ſurrounded the town, which is very large, and deſtitute of fortification. The General then ordered the army (about 2000 men) to retreat under the walls of the fort, where they remained until ſix o'clock. The French had already began to conſtruct a battery, which the General determined to attack by ſtorm immediately. He had proceeded on this ſervice but a ſhort time, ere he ſent orders for the 102d regiment.

regiment, and a battalion of ſepoys to march to his relief. Tippoo's French Commandant, ſeeing ſo large a body coming againſt him, made a ſhew of ſurrendering, until he could collect more force; having obtained this object, and being aſked by Capt. Fetherſton if he was going to ſurrender, laughed at the idea, and told Fetherſton, that he imagined the Engliſh were going to ſurrender. The ſtreets and houſes by this time were full of Tippoo's troops, who began a heavy fire from all quarters, which killed Captain Fetherſton; on which Captain Pyne ſucceeded to the command of the 102d regiment, who was immediately ſhot twice through his leg. The ſepoys ſeeing what havock was made among them by the grape ſhot, gave way; whereby the reſt were obliged to retreat to the fort. Tippoo the next day opened ſeventy guns againſt them, which was bravely anſwered by thoſe from the fort. The place is quite ſurrounded by hills, and every one commanding it, ſo that they lay quite expoſed; in this ſituation, however, they held out until the 27th, when Tippoo Saib offered

offered terms; viz. That the forts of Biddenore or Hydernagur, Anampore, Colidroog, with all the arms and ammunition, ſtores, and Circar property, ſhould be delivered to him; that the Engliſh ſhould go to Bombay, by way of Goa, and that he would furniſh doolies, and every thing neceſſary for their conveyance. Theſe terms the General thought proper to accept of, as being advantageous in his ſituation, and accordingly marched out of Biddenore on the 28th of April, to a plain in the neighbourhood, where they laid down their arms, and were ſurrounded by Tippoo's army, who having ſent for the General, field officers, and Captains, had them ſearched and ſtripped of every thing; the other officers and ſoldiers ſoon after ſhared the ſame fate, which plainly ſhews how much the word of ſuch a barbarian is to be depended on.

The particulars of the ſufferings of thoſe unfortunate gentlemen and poor ſoldiers, the reader will find annexed to the end of this work.

Colonel Campbell, a brave and experienced officer, at this time commanded at Mangalore,

Mangalore, with a garriſon, conſiſting of the 42d regiment, ſome detachments from other regiments, ſome Bombay Europeans, and artillery men, with four battalions of ſepoys, altogether about 3,000 men, and a tolerable ſtock of proviſions.

Tippoo Saib, after he had taken Biddenore, and put the garriſon in order, and ſettled the country affairs, proceeded immediately to the Mallabar Coaſt with his army, in order to reduce the garriſons then in poſſeſſion of the Engliſh, ſo that by the 19th of May he appeared before Mangalore, and began his operations by a vigorous ſiege.

The trenches being opened and batteries erected, well ſupplied with cannon, and manned with French gunners, Tippoo thought to have ſoon made a conqueſt of the place, but herein he was miſtaken; for Colonel Campbell and his brave troops as gallantly defended it, and often repulſed them in ſeveral attacks they made on the garriſon, till at length the fortifications were reduced to a mere heap of ruins; yet the Colonel ſupported the defence for ſeveral months, although he was in extreme neceſ-

ſity

ſity for want of proviſions, and almoſt on the point of ſtarving.

During this time, Mahomet Ally, the firſt General in Tippoo's army, being diſſatisfied, reſolved to go over to the Engliſh with 5,000 of his beſt men, with which Tippoo, by ſome means, became acquainted; whoſe army being now in a ſickly condition, having lain the time of the monſoons before the place, and being alſo much reduced by loſs of thoſe killed and wounded, therefore could but ill ſpare 5,000 men. He invited Mahomet Ally in the evening to walk with him in the fields without the camp, attended but by few; however, at a private ſignal by Tippoo, one of his attendants ſtabbed Mahomet Ally, that he died on the ſpot; by this means he hindered the deſertion of the 5,000 men, and continued to carry on the ſiege, which was as obſtinately defended by Colonel Campbell; where we ſhall leave them, and take notice of what is doing in the Carnatic.

Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote, who had been to Bengal for the benefit of his health, as well as to ſettle his affairs there,

previous to his going to Europe, arrived at Madras the 25th of April, 1783, and died there the day following. His loſs is moſt ſincerely regretted by every one that knew him.

General Stuart, who now ſucceeded to the command of the forces in the Carnatic, had marched with the grand army towards Cuddalore, in order to reduce that place, which had been taken by the French ſome time ſince.

The General, on his arrival within a few miles of the place on the 12th of June, 1783, called a council of war; the two officers next in command to him, Major General Bruce and Colonel Stuart, and making them acquainted with the ſtate of affairs in general; and, obſerving above all, the vaſt works the French were making on the high grounds and lines, in communication with the poſt commonly called Brickmyre's, thus ſtretching along the neck by which he was to approach the place; he requeſted General Bruce and Colonel Stuart freely to ſpeak their minds: he alſo called the chief engineer, and the commanding officers of the

Bengal

Bengal and Coaſt artillery as deliberative, deſiring to know, in their different departments, if they were in readineſs, ſo far as regarded materials for cloſing the redoubts after they ſhould get poſſeſſion, and to form a firſt parallel; and as to guns; with a ſufficient ſupply of ſtores for the enterprize. They agreed that every thing was in readineſs, and were unanimouſly of opinion; that there was not an hour to be loſt in driving the French from all their out-poſts into Cuddalore, or under the guns.

He immediately preſented the plan he meant to follow, to effect that purpoſe, which was, in general, moſt exactly followed. Lieutenant Colonel Kelly, in the preciſe moment agreed on, which was the next morning of the 13th, with his party, got poſſeſſion of the poſts of the enemy on the Bandipollam Hills, with their guns; and Lieutenant Colonel Cathcart, at the head of the grenadiers, ſupported by Colonel Stuart, commanded the advance picquets on the left, conſiſting of the remains of the 73d regiment, and two battalions of ſepoys,

made a movement to turn the enemy's right flank.

In advancing, they sustained such a heavy fire, and the ground so difficult, that, with great judgment, Colonel Stuart covered his people, until he could better reconnoitre, and some further disposition could be taken to approach the enemy from different quarters, nearly about the same time. He sent the General a report of his situation, who gave orders, in consequence, to the reserve under Colonel Gordon, to make a movement in advance to their left, and to Major General Bruce to march to the right, in the direction of the redoubt, if the ground would admit of it.

The General had very properly posted Lieutenant Colonel Edmondson upon the sand-hills, near the sea, to support four brass 18-pounders, and prevent their being flanked on that side.

Upon further information that the redoubt, which principally annoyed the grenadiers, was to be got at in the rear, orders were given for the grenadiers, the reserve, and the right under General Bruce, to close

upon

upon the enemy with their musquetry, leaving their guns under cover; he then desired the commanding officer of artillery to fire three guns as a signal, and to continue a heavy fire for five minutes on the enemy's redoubt, on the front opposite to Colonel Stuart, and the grenadiers, whilst the reserve under Colonel Gordon was moving on; upon the fire ceasing, the attack on all sides began.

The reserve advanced in the best order imaginable, under a very heavy fire of musquetry, round and grape; the greatest part of whom soon got within the enemy's entrenchments, where they lost a great many men.

Another part of the army were driven back, and pursued for a considerable time by the enemy; however, at that precise time, whilst the French were in pursuit, the grenadiers under Colonel Cathcart and Major Moore, with Colonel Stuart and Captain Lamont, with the 73d, entered the redoubt on the side where it was not entirely closed, and not only took possession of it, but pushed forward to a post called Brick-

myre's, conſiderably in advance, and were for ſome time in poſſeſſion of it, with the guns, but obliged to quit, upon freſh troops pouring in upon them.

They, however, kept hold of the firſt redoubt, as commanding or enfilading every thing in front, or to the right of it, and therefore a good point to go from, in their approaches; it was ordered to be cloſed by the chief engineer as ſoon as poſſible. The havock done by the Engliſh guns from the heights now appeared plain; and having thus ſecured, by Lieutenant Colonel Kelly and his brigade, the commanding points of Bandipollam Hills, and ſeeing from thence the whole bounds of Cuddalore: and having ſecured a poſt to approach from, of ſuch importance as before-mentioned, the General thought it ſufficient for the day, conſidering the numbers of his brave men that had fallen.

The French, in the courſe of the night, abandoned all their remaining out-poſts, and drew off their guns, excepting three, which were brought back by the Engliſh into the

redoubt,

redoubt, ready to open against their former masters.

From the best accounts, the French lost in this affair 42 officers and 600 men, with 16 guns and eight tumbrils.

The loss of the English was 10 officers and 152 Europeans, rank and file, killed; 36 officers and 357 Europeans, rank and file, wounded. Sepoys, five officers and 29 men killed; eight officers and 224 men wounded.

The next day, the 14th, the General advanced with his army near to the fort of Cuddalore.

The other English army, acting in the Carnatic under Colonel Lang, had made an irruption into the Coimbatore country, subduing the forts of Caroor and Dindegul, when the Colonel was recalled to join the grand army before Cuddalore, and Colonel Fullerton invested with the command in his room, who with great spirit and activity had pushed on as far as Darampore, which place surrendered to him the 1st of June; he was then within six days march of Paliagacheri, towards which place his farther progress

was totally barred, by an order from General Stuart to move back to Cuddalore, who was ſoon after ordered to march back again to the Coimbatore country, ſtrongly reinforced.

General Stuart having now made great progreſs in the ſiege, on the 25th the French made a ſally; their principal attack was directed on the right of the Engliſh parallel, who having a redoubt there, with two guns, galled them very much: nevertheleſs, they came on to cloſe quarters, when they were ſoon routed, with the loſs of four officers and ſeveral men killed, their commanding officer taken priſoner, with about 150 men.

The Engliſh loſt three officers, and about 20 men killed and wounded.

Soon after this, General Stuart received the news of a peace being concluded in Europe the 9th of February, in conſequence of which, a ceſſation of hoſtilities took place. It is imagined that the garriſon would ſoon have been ſubdued, had not this news arrived.

The French immediately tranſmitted an account of the peace to their good ally,

Tippoo

Tippoo Saib, on the receipt of which he alſo thought fit to ceaſe hoſtilities, and withdrew his army from before the fort of Mangalore.

Some gentlemen of the Council being now ſent off from Madras to Tippoo Saib with the like news, and empowered to conclude a treaty of peace with him, in which they ſucceeded; of which the following is a copy:

Treaty of Peace with the Nabob TIPPOO SULTAN BAHAUDER.

(The Company's Seal.) (Sultan's Seal.)

TREATY of perpetual peace and friendſhip between the Honourable the Engliſh Eaſt-India Company, and the Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder, on his own behalf, for the countries of Seringapatam, Hyder Nagur, &c. and all his other poſſeſſions, ſettled by Anthony Sadleir, George Leonard Staunton, and John Huddleſton, Eſqrs. on behalf of the Honourable Eaſt-India Company, for all their poſſeſſions, and for the Carnatic

Carnatic Payen Gaut, by virtue of powers delegated to the Right Honourable the President and Select Committee of Fort St. George, for that purpose, by the Honourable the Governor General and Council appointed by the King and Parliament of Great Britain, to direct and controul all political affairs of the Honourable East-India Company in India, and by the said Nabob, agreeably to the following articles, which are to be strictly and invariably observed, as long as the sun and moon shall last, by both parties; that is to say, by the English Company, and the three governments of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay, and the Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder.

Article I. Peace and friendship shall immediately take place between the said Company and the Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder, and their friends and allies, particularly including therein the Rajahs of Tanjore and Travencore, who are friends and allies to the English, and the Carnatic Payen Gaut; also Tippoo Sultan's friends and allies: the Beby of Cannanore, and the Rajahs, or Zemindars, of the Malabar Coast,

are

are included in this treaty. The English will not, directly, or indirectly, assist the enemies of the Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder, nor make war upon his friends or allies; and the Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder will not, directly, or indirectly, assist the enemies, nor make war upon the friends or allies of the English.

Article II. Immediately after signing and sealing the treaty by the Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder, and the three English Commissioners, the said Nabob shall send orders for the complete evacuation of the Carnatic, and the restoration of all the forts and places in it, now possessed by his troops; the forts of Amboorgur and Satgur excepted: and such evacuation and restoration shall actually and effectually be made in the space of thirty days, from the day of signing the treaty. And the said Nabob shall also, immediately after signing the treaty, send orders for the release of all the persons who were taken and made prisoners in the late war, and now alive, whether European or native; and for their being safely conducted to and delivered at such English fort, or settlement,

ment, as ſhall be neareſt to the places where they now are, ſo that the ſaid releaſe and delivery of the priſoners ſhall actually and effectually be made in thirty days from the day of ſigning the treaty. The Nabob will cauſe them to be ſupplied with proviſions and conveyances for the journey, the expence of which ſhall be made good to him by the Company. The Commiſſioners will ſend an officer, or officers, to accompany the priſoners to the different places where they are to be delivered; in particular, Abdul Wahab Cawn, taken at Chitoor, and his family, ſhall be immediately releaſed; and, if willing to return to the Carnatic, ſhall be allowed to do ſo. If any perſon, or perſons, belonging to the ſaid Nabob, and taken by the Company in the late war, be now alive, and in priſon in Bencoolen, or other territories of the Company, ſuch perſon, or perſons, ſhall be immediately releaſed; and, if willing to return, ſhall be ſent without delay to the neareſt fort, or ſettlement, in the Myſore country. Baſwaſca, late Amuldar of Pali-

cherry,

cacherry, ſhall be releaſed, and at liberty to depart.

Article III. Immediately after ſigning and ſealing the treaty, the Engliſh Commiſſioners ſhall give written orders for the delivery of Onore, Carwar, and Sadaſhevagada, and forts or places adjoining thereto, and ſend a ſhip, or ſhips, to bring away the garriſons. The Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder, will cauſe the troops in thoſe places to be ſupplied with proviſions, and any other neceſſary aſſiſtance for their voyage to Bombay, (they paying for the ſame) the Commiſſioners will likewiſe give at the ſame time, written orders for the immediate delivery of the forts and diſtricts of Carour, Auracourchy, and Daraparam; and immediately after the releaſe and delivery of the priſoners as before mentioned, the fort and diſtrict of Dindigal ſhall be evacuated and reſtored to the Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder, and none of the troops of the Company ſhall afterwards remain in the country of the Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder.

Article

Article IV. As soon as all the prisoners are released and delivered, the fort and district of Cannanore shall be evacuated, and restored to Ali Rajah Biby, the Queen of that country, in the presence of any one person, without troops, whom the Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder may appoint for that purpose; and at the same time that the orders are given for the evacuation and delivery of the forts of Cannanore and Dindigal, the said Nabob shall give written orders for the evacuation and delivery of Amboorgur and Satgur to the English; and in the mean time, none of the troops of the said Nabob shall be left in any part of the Carnatic, except in the two forts abovementioned.

Article V. After the conclusion of this treaty, the Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder will make no claim whatever, in future, on the Carnatic.

Article VI. All persons whatsoever, who have been taken and carried away from the Carnatic Payen Gaut, (which includes Tanjore) by the late Nabob Hyder Ally Cawn Bahauder, who is in heaven, or by

the Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder, or otherwise belonging to the Carnatic, and now in the Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bauhauder's dominions, and willing to return, ſhall be immediately allowed to return with their families and children, or as ſoon as may be convenient to themſelves; and all perſons belonging to Veneatgcherry Rajah, who were taken priſoners in returning from the fort of Vellore, to which place they had been ſent with proviſions, ſhall alſo be releaſed, and permitted immediately to return. Liſts of the principal perſons belonging to the Nabob Mahomed Ally Cawn Bahauder, and to the Rajah of Veneagatcherry, ſhall be delivered to the Nabob Tippoo Sultan's Miniſters; and the Nabob will cauſe the contents of this article to be publicly notified throughout his country.

Article VII. This being the happy period of general peace and reconciliation, the Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder, as a teſtimony and a proof of his friendſhip to the Engliſh, agrees, that the Rajahs, or Zemindars, on this coaſt, who have favoured

the Engliſh in the late war, ſhall not be moleſted on that account.

Article VIII. The Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder, hereby renews and confirms all the commercial privileges and immunities given to the Engliſh by the late Nabob Hyder Ally Cawn Bahauder, who is in heaven, and particularly ſtipulated and ſpecified in the treaty between the Company and the ſaid Nabob, concluded the 8th of Auguſt, 1770.

Article IX. The Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder, ſhall reſtore the factory and privileges poſſeſſed by the Engliſh at Callicut, until the year 1779, (or 1193 Hegira) and ſhall reſtore Mount Dilly, and its diſtrict, belonging to the ſettlement of Tellichery, and poſſeſſed by the Engliſh, till taken by Sedar Cawn, at the commencement of the late war.

Article X. This treaty ſhall be ſigned and ſealed by the Engliſh Commiſſioners, and a copy of it ſhall afterwards be ſigned and ſealed by the Preſident and Select Committee of Fort St. George, and returned

to the Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder, in one month, or ſooner, if poſſible; and the ſame ſhall be acknowledged under the hands and ſeals of the Governor General and Council of Bengal, and the Governor and Select Committee of Bombay, as binding upon all the Governments in India; and copies of the treaty, ſo acknowledged, ſhall be ſent to the ſaid Nobob, in three months, or ſooner, if poſſible. In teſtimony whereof, the ſaid contracting parties have ſigned, ſealed, and interchangeably delivered two inſtruments of the ſame tenor and date; to wit, the ſaid three Commiſſioners on behalf of the Honorable Engliſh Eaſt-India Company, and the Carnatic Peyen Gaut, and the ſaid Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahauder on his behalf, and the dominions of Seringapatam and Hyder Nagur, &c. Thus executed at Mangulore, (otherwiſe called Codial Bunder) this 11th day of March, and year 1784, of the Chriſtian æra, and 16th day of the Moon Rabillaſany, in the year of the Hegira 1198.

(Signed)

Tipoo Sultan's Signature.	ANTH. SADLIER, (L. S.)
	G. L. STAUNTON, (L. S.)
	J. HUDDLESTON, (L. S.)

(A true Copy,)

W. C. Jackſon, Secretary to the Embaſſy.

NARRATIVE

NARRATIVE of the Treatment of the Priſoners taken with Brigadier-General RICHARD MATHEWS, *by the* NABOB TIPPOO SULTAN BAHAUDER, *April* 28, 1783.

THE ſiege of Beddanore having laſted ſeventeen days, a ceſſation of arms took place on the 24th of April 1783, and on the 26th the General called a council of war, who, after deliberating on the ſituation of affairs, came to a reſolution of capitulating, on condition that the garriſon ſhould be allowed to march out of the fort with the honors of war, and pile their arms on the glacis; that all public ſtores ſhould be delivered up; that the Nabob ſhould furniſh the troops with a plentiful buzzar, and proper conveyances for the ſick; that, after being joined by the garriſons of Coolidroog and Anantpore, they ſhould be at liberty to march unmoleſted, with their private property, to Sedaſhaghurr, from thence

to embark for Bombay; that a guard of 100 ſepoys ſhould be granted Brigadier-General R. Mathews, with 36 rounds of ammunition; and that the Nabob, for the performance of the treaty on his part, ſhould deliver two hoſtages.

The capitulation being ſigned, and the hoſtages received, the garriſon marched out of the fort with the honors of war, on the evening of the 28th of April, and, after piling their arms on the glacis, were immediately eſcorted by a ſtrong body of the enemy to a tank, about half a mile beyond the Onore gate, where the General was told he muſt encamp that night; to which he reluctantly conſented, it being his intention to have marched two or three miles further. When the whole came up, the enemy ſurrounded us, and poſted centinels on every ſide, beyond whom no perſon was permitted to paſs. The General, calling for his body guard, was informed, that the enemy had forcibly taken away their arms and ammunition from them, and had likewiſe deprived many of the officers of their ſide arms. Early the next morning, while the troops

troops were preparing to march, the General received a meſſage from the Nabob, deſiring to ſee him, Captains Eames and Lendrum, and Mr. Stewart the Commiſſary; he accordingly waited on the Nabob, accompanied by thoſe gentlemen, and took ſeveral of the officers ſervants along with him, in hopes of recovering thoſe articles, of which they had been plundered by the enemy the preceding day; ſoon after their departure, a good bazzar arrived in camp, together with people to carry away the doolies, out of which they threw the ſick and wounded in the moſt inhuman manner, ſeizing thoſe who had lately ſuffered amputation by the ſtumps, and left them in that horrid and dreadful ſituation on the ground, expoſed to the ſun; on being aſked the cauſe of ſuch inhuman treatment, the barbarians replied, they had received orders to make the doolies two feet longer.

The troops had waited with the greateſt impatience for the General's return, till five o'clock in the evening, when intelligence was received, that Brigadier-General Mathews, with the other gentlemen, were im-

mediately upon their arrival at the Durbar, without being admitted into the Nabob's presence, made close prisoners. At ten o'clock at night we were alarmed by the arrival of an additional force of the enemy, when the guards turned out, and posted double centinels all round us; their designs we plainly discovered, though they endeavoured to lull our suspicions with the pretext, that those guards which had been first posted over us, were a part of Mahomed Ally's troops, who were going to be relieved, in order to be sent to Mangulore. The next morning we discovered the enemy had spies in every part of our camp, and emissaries employed to entice our troops to enter into the Nabob's service. A message was received from the Nabob to know what number of tents were wanted, at the same time informing us, we were to remain there some days. The tents we refused, but a letter signed by all the officers was written to the Nabob, requiring him immediately to fulfill the terms of capitulation; which letter was sent him by Major Fewtrill of the Bombay establishment,

(who

(who was ordered into Beddanore with Captain Alſton, Commanding Officer of his Majeſty's troops, and Lieutenant Young, Major of Brigade to the Bombay troops) but no anſwer was received to this letter. Early the next morning, the 1ſt of May, a report prevailed, that the troops were to be plundered of their property; which we ſoon found to be too true, for at ten o'clock the buzzar was taken away, the guards ordered under arms, and all the European officers ſent for immediately to the ſpot of ground from whence the buzzar had been taken, where we were one by one plundered by the enemy, in the moſt ſcandalous manner, of our horſes, palenqueens, money, plate, valuables, &c. and, in ſhort, of every article, except our bedding and cloaths, ſearching us moſt minutely in every part, without the leaſt regard to decency. The European ſoldiers, black officers, and ſepoys, with their wives and children, as alſo the camp followers, were ſearched and plundered in the ſame indecent and infamous manner; and at four o'clock in the afternoon were marched under a ſtrong

 guard

guard to Beddanore, the ſick and wounded being left to periſh on the ground. Shortly after, the European officers, with their ſervants, were conducted to Beddanore, where we were cloſely confined in the barracks formerly occupied by a battalion of our own ſepoys; and, from the time the villains began to plunder us, we had nothing to eat of any kind till twelve o'clock the next day, at which time they brought and delivered to each perſon, one pice and a ſeer of the coarſeſt rice, which they informed us was to be the daily allowance of officers and ſervants indiſcriminately. On the 5th of the ſame month, all our ſervants, except one to each officer, were taken away. On the 6th the ſubaltern officers belonging to Annantapore, were brought priſoners to the barracks, who informed us of their having ſeen the officers of Coolidroog, and the garriſons of that place and Annantapore, in irons, and alſo that all the fine young lads of the 3d and 15th battalions of ſepoys, were, by orders of the Nabob, forcibly taken away, in order to be made ſlaves of, and put into his Cheelah battalions.

On

On th 7th arrived Lieutenant Muirſon, of the 100th regiment, and Lieutenants Mac Kenzie and Barnwell, of the Bombay eſtabliſhment; the two former taken at Cundapore, the latter at the commencement of the ſiege, with Captain Gotlich, of the Bombay eſtabliſhment; theſe gentlemen informed us they had been in irons for ſome days. This day we wrote a letter (ſigned by all the officers preſent) to Lieut. Colonel De Coſſigne, commanding officer of the French troops, repreſenting to him, in a ſpirited manner, the Nabob's baſe violation of the conditions on which Beddanore ſurrendered, as alſo his ſhameful cruel conduct towards the troops in general; requeſting (in the name of his Britannic Majeſty and the Eaſt-India Company) that he would uſe his utmoſt endeavours with the Nabob, to perſuade him to adhere to the terms of capitulation, or (if he failed in that point) that he would at leaſt obtain a mitigation of our hard-hearted uſage; we contrived to ſend this letter by a French officer, who had been taken priſoner by us during the ſiege, and had come to the barracks with a ſurgeon of that nation, to return the civilities

civilities he had received from ſome of our officers, during his confinement; we flattered ourſelves with great hopes of redreſs from this letter, particularly as the French officer aſſured us, that Lieutenant Colonel De Coſſigne was very well inclined to exert himſelf in our cauſe, and gave us his word of honor that he would immediately wait on the Colonel and deliver him our letter; but to our utter aſtoniſhment and mortification, we never received an anſwer from Lieutenant Colonel De Coſſigne, nor did any other of the French officers come near us during our ſtay in the barracks, or offer us the ſmalleſt relief in our diſtreſſed ſituation. The chagrin we felt on this occaſion, helped not a little to increaſe the indiſpoſition of many of the officers, who were daily falling ſick of fevers and fluxes, which we only could attribute to our wretched food, and the putrid ſtench ariſing from the neceſſary. The French ſurgeons would afford us no aſſiſtance; our own ſurgeons had it not in their power, having been plundered of their inſtruments and medicines at the time of the general ſearch. The ſame day Dr. Car-

michael.

michael, of the Bombay eſtabliſhment, was ſent for by the Nabob to viſit Brigadier General Mathews, whom he found much indiſpoſed, and by whom he was informed, that the Nabob was endeavouring to intimidate him into a ſurrender of all the forts in the low country, by threatning to blow him away from a gun, in caſe of his non-compliance. In the evening the Nabob was ſo generous as to ſend us a preſent of thirty-five ſmall fowls, and a few ſalt fiſh, to be divided among upwards of eighty officers. On the 8th, in the morning, the Captains belonging to the garriſons of Coolidroog and Annantpore, together with Captain Gotlich, who was taken priſoner at the commencement of the ſiege, were brought under a ſtrong guard to the barracks, and were ſhortly after removed (with the reſt of the Captains, Mr. Gifford, ſurgeon's mate of the 100th regiment, Lieutenants Barnwell and Olivier, of the Bombay eſtabliſhment, and Mr. Chick, Deputy Commiſſary) to a ſeparate place of confinement.

On the 9th we were ordered to prepare to march, and were informed we ſhould not be

allowed

allowed coolies to carry our baggage; we, therefore, packed up as much linnen as we could well carry ourſelves, and giving our bedding to our ſervants, we all went into the ſtreet, (except Captain Pync and Enſign Jenour, of the 102d regiment, with Captain Facey, Lieutenants Williamſon, Lea and Baird, of the Bombay eſtabliſhments, who were in a too deſperate ſituation from their wounds to be removed) where we were firſt ſtripped of our coats, and then chained two and two by the hands; after which, we were a ſecond time ſearched and plundered: we were then ſecured in another houſe till about three o'clock in the afternoon, when we were led through crouds of people in this ignominious manner (more like criminals going to the place of execution, than Britiſh officers made priſoners, contrary to the rules of war) to the enemy's camp, a ſhort diſtance beyond the Delly Gate, where we heard we were to be confined in a ſtrong fort, called Chettledroog. The enemy, at the time we were leaving the barracks, gave us an inſtance of the treatment we might in future expect to receive, on their behaviour to

Lieut.

Lieut. Alexander M'Donald, of the Bombay eſtabliſhment, who was ſo exceedingly ill that he could ſcarcely ſtand: he therefore requeſted permiſſion to remain behind with the wounded officers, which they obſtinately refuſed, beating and dragging him out by the heels; but, to the honor of the French, we were informed, their treatment of Lieutenant Lambert, of the Bombay eſtabliſhment, whom they had taken dangerouſly wounded at the commencement of the ſiege, was full of tenderneſs and humanity ſo peculiar to that nation.

On the 10th in the morning, as we were moving off the ground, each officer received three pice for that day's ſubſiſtence; we marched about fifteen miles, and found the apprehenſions of yeſterday fully juſtified by this day's uſage on the road; ſeveral of the officers who were ill, and much fatigued by the intenſe heat of the ſun and the want of water, attempting to reſt themſelves under a tree, were beat in a moſt unmerciful manner by the enemy, with ſwords and ſticks, while others were driven on with the buts of the firelocks, ſpit upon, and abuſed in the

groſſeſt

groſſeſt manner; whenever we approached a town or village, four or five were advanced in front with horns and tom-toms, that the inhabitants might, by their diſcordant muſic, be aſſembled together to gaze at us as we paſſed through. We proceeded on in this miſerable condition, each day bringing on a renewal of our ſufferings, till our arrival at Simoga, (a fort ſituated on the banks of a river, ſixty miles eaſtward of Beddanore) our allowance having been increaſed to one fanam each per day, and coolies furniſhed to carry our bedding and cloaths, whenever the commanding officer of the eſcort thought proper to procure them. As we were to halt here one day, we fondly expected ſome little indulgencies, eſpecially for thoſe gentlemen who were ill; but our inhuman enemy, as if delighted with every freſh opportunity of augmenting our afflictions, when entreated to afford ſome aſſiſtance to Lieutenant Fireworker Weſt, of the Bombay eſtabliſhment, and Serjeant Dobbins, of the 102d regiment, who had been ſtruck with the ſun, owing to our long and ſevere marches, abſolutely refuſed it, ſaying, they were only drunk.

drunk, and ſeemed to exult in their miſery, although the one was quite ſpeechleſs, and the other raving mad; nor were they ſatiſfied with this, but even extended their brutiſh inſults to the lifeleſs body of Lieut. Waugh, of the Bombay eſtabliſhment, whoſe death was evidently haſtened by the injuries he had received upon the road. On the 14th, we had the misfortune to loſe Lieut. Clements, of the Bombay eſtabliſhment, who, on his departure from Beddanore, was in perfect health, but on the laſt day's march received a ſevere ſtroke of the ſun, of which he died chained to Enſign Gilkie, of the ſame eſtabliſhment, who remained in that diſagreeable ſituation ſeveral hours. In the evening Lieut. Sutton, of the Bombay eſtabliſhment, was ſeized with the cramp, and ſpaſms in his ſtomach, and, by his violent contortions, gave great pains to Lieut. Reddie, who was hand-cuffed to him, and in great danger of having his arm broke, and who, for unrivetting the iron, though he had permiſſion from one of the eſcort ſo to do, was immediately taken to a tree, and threatned to be hanged, for which purpoſe ropes were

were prepared, and the Jemidar informed us he had received orders from the Nabob to hang every perſon who ſhould even attempt to free himſelf from his fetters; but, on a ſubmiſſive repreſentation of the buſineſs, Lieut. Reddie was ſo far indulged, as to eſcape only with a few laſhes; we again made application for aſſiſtance to Lieutenant Sutton, to which we received the following ſanguinary reply, mingled with a large ſhare of Eaſtern abuſe: "Let him die, and when he is dead, we'll drag him out of the camp by his heels;" however, by the merciful hands of Providence, he recovered in a few hours. About ten o'clock at night, came on a moſt violent thunder ſtorm, which laſted ſome hours, and having no kind of ſhelter from the rain, we all ſuffered exceedingly, particularly the ſick, whoſe diſorders were much increaſed by it; ſome of the gentlemen who were troubled with ſevere fluxes and agues, being much affected by the rain and raw cold wind, went to ſome fires made by the guard after the ſtorm had ceaſed, in order to warm themſelves, but were given ſoon to underſtand, that it was

too

too great an indulgence for Britiſh officers to enjoy, being inſtantly drove away from the fires by the enemy with the buts of their firelocks. We left this place on the morning of the 15th, and, after a ſhort march, arrived at Holly Onvor, (a fort ſituated on the eaſt bank of a rapid river) and for the firſt time ſince we began our march brought under cover. As Enſign Cadogan, of the Bombay eſtabliſhment, was exceedingly ill, and coming into the fort, endeavouring to ſhift his poſture in the quilt in which he was carried, he received a blow on the head from one of the coolies, and died a ſhort time afterwards, when he was ſtripped of every article, and in that naked condition thrown into a hole by the ſide of the river, without ſuffering us to pay our laſt duty to the corpſe. As we approached the deſtined place of confinement, our eſcort began to relax a little in their ſeverity, and (ſupplying bullocks to ſome of the ſick to ride on, for the uſe of which we gave part of the few cloaths we had with us) by ſlow marches we arrived, on the 21ſt of May, 1783, at Chettledroog, a ſtrong and almoſt impenetrable fortreſs,

irregularly built, on the end of a ridge of hills, rising in a flat country, 128 miles eastward of Beddanore. Here we were led in triumph to a street leading to the Durbar, where we were detained, surrounded by crouds of people, till four o'clock in the afternoon, at which hour all the servants (except one to every five officers) were taken away; they then separated us into two parties, and marched us up through ten very strong gateways to the top of one of the highest hills, and there closely confined us in two separate houses; and, after having a third time searched and plundered us, our hand-cuffs were knocked off, and irons put on our legs. Late in the evening (having had nothing to eat the whole day) they brought us rice, with wood and water to dress it, and next morning we were ordered to deliver up all our knives and papers, but were permitted to keep a few books, which some of the officers had brought with them; they then furnished us with an hand-mill for the purpose of grinding rice, which afterwards became our chief employment: about ten o'clock a Brahmin came up, and delivered

delivered to each perſon one ſeer of the coarſeſt rice and two pice, with wood ſuffi-cient to cook our victuals, which he told us was to be our daily allowance: our ſer-vants were only allowed each one pice per day; we were alſo furniſhed with a buzzar, pretty well ſupplied with every article, ex-cept butchers meat. We were, at this time, confined entirely to the houſe, but informed that a neceſſary was building in the outer yard, to which, when finiſhed, we ſhould be permitted to go. On the 29th the neceſſary being compleated, two gentle-men at a time were permitted to go to it. On the 4th of June we ſent our compli-ments to Dowlat Bhauee, the Jemmidar of the province, acquainting him it was our King's birth-day, and, on that account, re-queſting we might be allowed ſome meat; in conſequence of this application, out of his great generoſity, he ordered a ſmall lean ſheep to be ſent up, for which we paid a moſt exorbitant price, and which was of but little ſervice to us, who were forty in number. On the 8th, the wood which had been daily ſerved out to us, was ſtopped,

 nor

nor would the enemy ſupply us with more till we conſented to pay for it, which additional expence deprived us of half our paltry daily allowance. On application being made for medicines for the ſick, we were informed that the ſtricteſt orders had been iſſued out not to ſupply us with any, that we had not come there to live, and that the Nabob would be happy to hear we were all dead. Thoſe gentlemen who were ill, appeared, from this circumſtance, to deſpond exceedingly, ſeeing no proſpect of recovery except what nature might work: thus unhappily ſituated, we uſed every means to procure ſome medicines, but all in vain, for the ſentries to whom we applied, told us, they would willingly bring us ſome, provided they could do it with ſafety, but that were they diſcovered, they would forfeit their ears and noſes. On the 13th, three women, who were confined with us, were decoyed out by a report of ſome fine ſalt fiſh being in the buzzar; on their going out, the doors of our priſon were immediately ſhut, and ſoon after we were alarmed with horrid ſhrieks and cries of murder, and could

plainly hear the women call upon us for aſſiſtance, but as it was totally out of our power to afford them any, we could only deplore their ſituation in anxious ſuſpence, not knowing what might be their fate; however, an hour had not elapſed before our apprehenſions were agreeably relieved by their ſafe return, when they informed us, they had been very roughly handled and narrowly ſearched, and that a few pagodas which they had contrived to conceal, taken from them. On the 15th, we were deprived of the buzzar, nothing being brought for ſale but four milk, ſalt chellies, tamarinds, and tobacco. About midnight, Serjeant Dobbens, of the 102d regiment, who had been ill of a fever ſome days, departed this life; and, when the doors of the priſon were opened in the morning, we made the * Wurdy Wollah acquainted with the circumſtance, and requeſted the corpſe might be immediately taken away, and decently interred, for we feared the putrid ſtench that aroſe from it might occaſion ſome infectious diſtemper; but, inſtead of complying with our requeſt,

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* The man who counted us twice a day.

he told us we muſt dig a grave in the priſon, and bury him there; we then repreſented to him the offenſive inconveniency of ſuch a meaſure, as likewiſe the impoſſibility of doing it, having no tools for the purpoſe: to which he replied, "dig it with your nails;" however, after many humble intreaties, we at laſt gained our point, and the funeral ſervice having been read, the corpſe was tied up in a mat, and carried out of the priſon by our own ſervants, after which the enemy tied a rope about the neck and took it away. On the 20th, they deprived us of our ſour milk, ſo that we had nothing then to ſubſiſt on but rice alone, without any other vehicle than water to carry it down. Uncertain how this diet might agree with us, and ſeveral of the officers being ſick and deſtitute of medicine, our ſituation became wretched, and our proſpect dreadful, from a belief that the worſt was yet to come; and their taking away a few onions (which one of the gentlemen had reſerved from the time of our being deprived of the buzzars) juſt as they were going to be boiled, ſerved to confirm our ſuſpicions. Our neceſſary began,

at

at this time, to be very offenſive, for thoſe gentlemen who were ill were unable to go to the outſide one, nor were any of us ſuffered to go to it from ſun-ſet to ſun-riſe; for, during that time, the doors were faſt locked. Our cook-room, as well as the neceſſary, was in the priſon, we therefore laboured under another diſagreeable inconvenience, from being in a continual ſmoke the greateſt part of the day, while immenſe ſwarms of rats, bugs, fleas, and other kinds of vermin, conſtantly diſturbed our nightly reſt. The daily inſults we received from our cruel, tyrannical enemy, joined to the reſt of our treatment, when compared with our former ſituations in life, at times depreſſed our ſpirits, and hurt our feelings ſo much, that words cannot do juſtice to our ſufferings; but, on reflection, recollecting we were Britons, and how ſhameful it was to yield to gloomy deſpair, we reſumed our uſual gaiety of mind, determined, by the help of Providence, to ſurmount every difficulty, in hopes of future revenge. On the 29th died Lieut. William Paterſon, of the 102d regiment; when the enemy came in

before his body was cold, and, vulture-like, ſeized upon the few remaining things belonging to him, threatning to puniſh with rigour thoſe gentlemen who ſhould attempt to conceal any part of them; after permitting us to read the funeral ſervice, the corpſe was removed.

We now became exceedingly anxious to learn the ſituation of affairs, and punctually liſtened every night to the converſation of the guard, from whom we hoped to gather ſome intelligence, and were not diſappointed, for we were frequently gratified with the moſt flattering and plauſible accounts of our ſucceſs againſt the Nabob, which accounts were ſometimes confirmed, and at other times contradicted, by the ſentries, with whom we had frequent opportunities of converſing; we queſtioned them concerning our Europeans and ſepoys who were confined in the fort, and they told us, that the former were treated in the ſame manner as ourſelves, but that the latter, with our ſervants, were only allowed one ſeer of rauggy (which is the worſt grain in the country), and one pice each, per day; that they were employed,

employed, during the day, to work as coolies, carrying ſtones, mud, and chunam, for erecting and repairing the enemy's works; and, that in the evening, after they had furniſhed their labour, they were confined in priſon with irons upon their legs, and their hands tied behind them; they further informed us, that our ſepoys had been frequently aſked to enter into the enemy's ſervice, and threatned to be hanged in caſe they refuſed to do ſo, being told, at the ſame time, that all the European officers had taken ſervice, but that our ſepoys diſregarded their threats, and told them, with a firm reſolution, that not a man of them would enter their ſervice, that they would ſooner die working as coolies, and that they well knew none of the European officers had taken, or would take ſervice; this pleaſing news of the fortitude and fidelity of our brave ſepoys, who were labouring under ſuch cruel hardſhips, gave us the utmoſt ſatisfaction, and conſiderably lightened the burden of our own ſufferings.

On the 3d of July, Doctor Carmichael of the Bombay eſtabliſhment, had his irons taken

taken off, and was conducted below to visit Dowlat Bhauce, who had been taken suddenly ill. The Doctor returned in the evening, and informed us, that after having prescribed for the Jemmidah, he gave him a most excellent dinner, and made him an offer of remaining below, which he declined; Dowlat Bhauee also promised the Doctor, that he should not again be put in irons, which was invariably adhered to. On the 11th of this month died Liéutenant Auchenlick, of the Bombay establishment, who had long been ill of a flux; and though frequent applications were made for his irons to be taken off, our hard-hearted enemy would not consent to it; but about an hour before his death, they brought up a blacksmith, and though strongly solicited not to disturb him in his last moments, they positively insisted on knocking off his irons, which they effected with great pain to the poor dying man. On the 7th of August, having been told by the sentries, that a Mahratta army, with a detachment of English troops, were approaching to Chettledroog, our spirits were much elated,

as we could not avoid giving ſome credit to the report, from the circumſtance of the principal men belonging to the government coming up, and enquiring whether any of us underſtood the nature of mortars, or to cut fuzees, of which we all diſclaimed having any knowledge; they then called out five officers, to whom they offered conſiderable commands in the Nabob's ſervice, as alſo to the reſt of us, provided we would enter, but their offers, were of courſe, rejected with diſdain. On the 27th our daily allowance was augmented to three pice each, and we were informed, that a ceſſation of arms had taken place between the Eaſt-India Company and Tippoo Sultan Nabob Bahauder; that peace was actually on foot, and that the Buriah * Mire would be ſent by Dowlat Bhauee, to acquaint us with it; we waited impatiently for a confirmation of this joyful news, till five o'clock in the evening, when the Buriah Mire made his appearance, and acquainted us in a very formal manner, that peace was concluding between the aforeſaid belligerent

* A Town Clerk.

rent powers; that in the mean time, we ſhould have a buzzar, and requeſted to know all our wants. We were deluded into a firm belief of this intelligence for five days, but on the 1ſt of September were undeceived, by the buzzar being taken away, and the additional pice ſtruck off; upon making enquiry into the cauſe of the ſudden change, we were told, that the Buriah Mire would ſatisfy us on that head; but as he did not at that time pay us another viſit, we concluded it was only a pretext, calculated to ſerve ſome particular purpoſe. On the 5th of October, our daily allowance was again augmented to three pice each, and the following day a buzzar was ſent to us, in which was ghee, dholl, Ougar wheat flower, muſſaulace, tobacco, limes, and vegetables. On the 20th the Buriah Mire a ſecond time made his appearance, and we were in great expectation of receiving ſome agreeable intelligence; but his errand was only to enquire whether any of us underſtood the method of making muſket flints, paper, or black led pencils, offering great rewards

rewards to any perſon who could inſtruct him in thoſe arts.

On the 5th of November, we had the misfortune to loſe Dr. Carmichael, of the Bombay eſtabliſhment, who had been ill a conſiderable time, and whoſe death was much lamented by every gentleman in priſon. Though we found the weather in general milder than on the ſea coaſt, and the monſoons not near ſo violent, yet our priſon was not proof againſt the rain, which came in through moſt parts of the roof, and occaſioned a dampneſs, that brought on a ſlow fever, of which a number of us were at this time ill. On the 4th of December, our ſervants, as they went to draw water, for the firſt time, had an opportunity of ſpeaking to thoſe attending upon the gentlemen in the other priſon, from whom we had the ſatisfaction to hear, that they all enjoyed good health, and had only loſt, during their confinement, Enſign Bateman of the Bombay eſtabliſhment, Mr. Brown, Quarter-Maſter of the 100th regiment, and a private ſoldier of the 98th regiment. At different periods we experienced various

kinds

kinds of treatment, ſometimes meeting with leſs ſeverity than at others; we had an inſtance of their lenity on Chriſtmas-Day, when the buzzar man was directed to bring for ſale abundance of fruit, ſweet-meats, and vegetables, together with ſome ſheep, two of which were purchaſed by ſome of the gentlemen, who had ſaved money out of their daily allowance for that purpoſe. On the 3d of January, 1784, died much regretted, Lieutenant Drew, of the Bombay eſtabliſhment, after a painful lingering illneſs. Having the curioſity to inquire how they diſpoſed of the bodies of the deceaſed, we were aſſured by different people, that they were thrown over a precipice into an abyſs, there to be devoured by the tygers and vultures. On the 10th, butchers meat was allowed to be brought into the buzzar, and ſold in ſmall quantities, in common with other articles. Our treatment was now much better than heretofore; we wanted for nothing that we could, with our ſmall allowance, afford to purchaſe, and as many as choſe, were permitted to go to the outer yard, from ſun-

riſe

riſe to ſun-ſet; from this great alteration in the behaviour of the enemy, as alſo from the repeated aſſurances, that peace was concluding, we were led to believe, that the happy day would ſoon arrive, when we ſhould be freed from our ſhackles, and once more enjoy the liberty of Britons. On the 10th of February died, Lieutenant Hugh Moore, of the 98th regiment, who, ſome days before his death, had been indulged with a room to himſelf, in an houſe in the outer yard, which, after his deceaſe, we were permitted to occupy during the day. We were now poſitively aſſured, that peace was concluded, and that all the priſoners would be releaſed in a few days, which happy period we anxiouſly waited for; but having been ſo often deceived, we much ſuſpected the truth of this intelligence, notwithſtanding the indulgent behaviour of the enemy; however, on the 23d of March, all our doubts were cleared up, for early in the morning, the Wardy Wollah brought up ſeveral blackſmiths, and informed us, that he had received orders from Dowlat Bhauee to knock off all our irons, and to acquaint

quaint us that peace was concluded, and that we were to be releaſed in a day or two. The emotions we felt on receiving this joyful and moſt welcome news, joined to the pleaſing ſenſation of having our legs at liberty, no pen can deſcribe; for a while, nothing but rejoicings and congratulations were heard re-echoing from every part of the priſon. After we were freed from our fetters, we remained two days to get the proper uſe of our limbs, and on the 25th in the morning, we bid adieu to our jail, and were conducted to an open ſpace of ground juſt without the priſon, where we had not waited long, ere we at a diſtance diſcovered our brother officers, who had been ſeparated from us on our arrival at Chettledroog, and ſuch was our eagerneſs to meet, that the fixed bayonets of the guards could not prevent our running ſeveral yards to embrace each other; this was a period of bliſs, of which the firſt monarch in the world might juſtly have envied us; we were ſo drowned in joy, that for a while we forgot we were ſtill in the hands of the enemy; but were ſoon recovered from our

trance,

trance, by receiving orders to proceed below, which we gladly obeyed, and about ten o'clock arrived at the Kutchery,* where we had the inexpreſſible pleaſure of meeting with Meſſrs. Gordon and Brunton, (two Lieutenants of the Madras eſtabliſhment, who had been taken priſoners ſome years before) and of ſeeing many others of our fellow ſufferers, both Europeans and ſepoys, but were not permitted to converſe with the latter. Our ſervants, who were taken from us on our arrival at Chettledroog, were delivered over to us, from whom guſhed tears of joy, at ſight of their maſters. We had not long been there, when a very unpleaſing ſight was preſented to our view; which was nothing leſs than ſeveral baſkets of handcuffs, for the purpoſe of again linking us two and two; but on making a forcible repreſentation to Dowlat Bhauee, and on ſigning a paper, wherein we gave our paroles of honor for our good behaviour, and bound ourſelves anſwerable for that of the troops, he relinquiſhed his intention of making us ſuffer that horrid, ignominious

* The place where all public buſineſs is tranſacted.

ignominious puniſhment; but we were not ſo ſuçceſsful in our ſtrenuous application in behalf of our brave faithful ſoldiers; for they, poor fellows, were obliged to endure that cruel treatment. Having been told by our ſervants, that ſeveral of our ſlave boys had been taken out of the priſon in which they were all confined together, and carried away, on the 20th of this month, we demanded them to be given up to us, but met with no other ſatisfaction, than being told they were all dead.

As moſt of the officers and men were nearly naked, and all of us in want of ſhoes, we made an application for a ſum of money to be advanced us on the Honorable Company's account, and were informed by Dowlat Bhauec, that a buckſhy would be ſent with us, who would ſupply us with every thing we could wiſh for. Having been detained in the Kutchery till four o'clock in the afternoon, we all marched at that time to the burying ground, about a mile and a half diſtant from the fort. As ſoon as we halted, we all aſſembled together, and related to each other our ſufferings;

ferings; and, on comparing notes, found that the officers who had been separated from us, were used in every respect in the same manner as ourselves. Messrs. Gordon and Brunton had formerly been confined at Seringapatam, where they were treated tolerably well; and for the first six months were not in irons; about twenty months before our arrival at Chettledroog, they were removed (with several European soldiers taken with Colonel Bailley) to that fort, where they were at first treated remarkably well, having meat and liquor daily served out to them, exclusive of their allowance of rice and pice, and were besides supplied with a plentiful buzzar. The capture of the Beddanore caused some alteration in their treatment for the worse; but nothing very material took place, till those gentlemen were detected in a correspondence with Lord Macartney, (Governor of Madras) and in endeavouring to send a letter to us. In consequence of this discovery, they were confined by themselves in a very small dark room, the door of which was only suffered to remain open one hour in the day;

irons were put on their hands as well as on their legs; they were fed on the ſweepings of the *rauggy ſtore-houſe, being only allowed one ſeer of that grain each per day, were deprived of the buzzar, and in every reſpect treated with the utmoſt rigour, for ſome months, till the ceſſation of arms took place, at which time their irons were taken off, the doors of the priſon kept open all day, and ever after uſed in the ſame manner as we were. We learned from our ſervants, that what we heard from the guard in the beginning of July, regarding our Europeans and ſepoys, was ſtrictly true.

On the 26th, having received no allowance of rice or pice for the preceding day, we aſked for ſome victuals, and ſome hours after, a ſeer of rice, and one pice was delivered to each perſon; we were amazed at, and did not know how to account for the reduction of our pittance; for as peace was concluded, we naturally imagined our allowance would rather have been augmented than curtailed; but on making enquiry into the

* The worſt kind of grain, reſembling muſtard-ſeed.

the cause, were told that the Commissioners of Madras, employed in negociating the treaty, had stipulated no kind of provision for us; and that the Nabob had sent orders to furnish us with just as much as would keep us from starving, and no more. In the evening we received intelligence from a sepoy, who had formerly been in the English service, that Dowlat Bhauee had kept fifteen of our drummers and slaves, confined them in an house close to where he lived; also, that the Jemmidar had detained ten European soldiers, and twenty-three sepoys, whom he separately confined in different parts of the fort, and had given out that they were dead. This day and the 27th, several parties of our European soldiers and sepoys, from various parts of the country, joined us; and as soon as they could get an opportunity, many of them shewed their gratitude and generosity, by sending several of us a little money, which they had contrived to save when they were first taken. As several officers obtained permission to visit their men, we learned that the Europeans had been better used than

we were, except at one place, where having only a ſeer of rauggy, and one pice to ſubſiſt on, they gave part of that allowance for pieces of dried ſheep ſkin, which being their uſual food, fluxed them ſo much, that out of 230, only 113 ſurvived; and the enemy were ſo rigid, as not even to allow them to waſh their hands and faces, or comb their hair, for the ſpace of four months. Our ſepoys were equally oppreſſed in every priſon, all of them having been employed as coolies, carrying mud, ſtones, &c. the whole time of their confinement, with no other allowance than one ſeer of rauggy, and one pice each, and having been daily puniſhed with ſtripes, and threatned to be hanged for refuſing to enter into the Nabob's ſervice; this hard uſage cauſed numbers of them to die. One circumſtance, of which we were made acquainted by ſome of the European ſoldiers, ſo much redounds to the honor of the ſepoys, that it cannot paſs unnoticed. In ſome of the priſons where the Europeans and ſepoys were confined together, the latter ſaved money out of their daily allowance, and purchaſed meat

for

for the former, at the ſame time telling them, that they well knew the cuſtoms of Europeans, and that they could not do without it; alſo when on the march, they would not ſuffer them to carry their knapſacks, but the ſepoys took them, and carried them themſelves; telling the Europeans, that they were better able to bear the heat of the ſun than they were, the climate being natural to them.

On the 28th, doolies having been provided for the ſick, we commenced our march (guarded by an eſcort of 60 cavalry, and 500 infantry, under the command of Meer Buckſhy) for Ooſcottah (a fort lying 16 miles eaſtward of Bengalore, and 60 miles diſtant from the paſs into the Carnatic); whereas Dowlat Bhauee informed us, all the priſoners were to be collected, and where we ſhould meet ſome of our own gentlemen ſent from Madras, provided with money, and every other article, requiſite for our reception. The doolies were only four feet long, and in every reſpect ſo bad and incommodious, that no perſon who could poſſibly crawl, would accept of one. Prior

to our quitting the burying ground, we obtained a promiſe to march at what time we choſe, but that promiſe was not adhered to, for we ſeldom or ever decamped before ſunriſe. During the march, and after we halted, the guards were very particular in keeping the ſeveral parties ſeparate, but the Buckſhy was ſo good as to allow many of the Europeans to take off their irons. We had made but few marches, before we found that rice alone had not ſufficient ſuſtenance in it, to ſupport us under the fatigue of conſtant marching in the ſun; we therefore made a propoſal to the buzzar man, to ſupply us with the mere neceſſaries of life out of his ſhop, at the rate of four pagodas for one, to be paid him on our arrival at Ooſcottah, to which, after much entreaty, he ſeemingly, with reluctance, conſented, but he exacted ſuch an exorbitant price for every article, that we did not receive more than the value of half a rupee for every four pagodas; however, that was a matter of very little conſideration, when put in competition with the preſervation of our lives. Nothing further material happened till our arrival at Seerahguney,

guney, on the 8th of April, when the Buckshy informed us, he expected one of the Commissioners would overtake us that night, as he had heard he was very near; and the next morning, before the rear was off the ground, Mr. Sadlier (a Counsellor at Madras, and one of the Commissioners) and Ensign Tromblong, of that establishment, overtook us; the sight of these gentlemen made our hearts leap with joy; for nothing could be more agreeable to us, at that time, than meeting with some of our own countrymen: those gentlemen who were in the rear were very cordially received by Mr. Tromblong, but Mr. Sadlier's behaviour was not quite so pleasing; that gentleman, when requested by one of our officers, to use his endeavour with the Buckshy to get all the men taken out of irons, replied, "the situation the troops were then in, was the best and securest method of marching them:" another officer represented to Mr. Sadlier the many distresses of the officers and men, and particularly mentioned their being bare-footed, as also the necessity we were reduced to, of purchasing the mere neces-

saries

faries of life from the buzzar man at fuch an exorbitant intereft; in anfwer to which, Mr. Sadlier told him, he could give us no affiftance, and afked him, how we intended to difcharge the buzzar debt: then immediately turning to another officer, with the cooleft indifference, afked him what corps he belonged to. The gentleman, who addreffed Mr. Sadlier, was fo thunder-ftruck at thefe words, and his behaviour, that he could make him no anfwer, but took his leave in filent aftonifhment.

This extraordinary behaviour of Mr. Sadlier's, hurt our feelings more fenfibly than any thing we had hitherto experienced; fuch treatment from the enemy might have been expected, but to receive it from one of our own countrymen, and from the firft perfon too who was eye-witnefs of our diftrefs, was cruel beyond meafure. Had this gentleman's humanity been as eminent as his want of it, our misfortunes might, by his means, have been alleviated in fome degree. After a fhort ftay, Mr. Sadlier and Enfign Tromblong proceeded on their way to Bengalore, the former gentleman leaving

us

us a preſent of ſix bottles and a half of various ſorts of liquors, which our ſituation would not allow us to refuſe, as we concluded it might be of ſervice to ſome of thoſe gentlemen who were ſick.

On the 12th, having loſt, by death, only two Europeans, we arrived at Ooſcottah, where we found Lieutenant Dallas, of the Madras cavalry, with a detachment of that corps, and two companies of ſepoys, appointed by the Commiſſioners to receive the priſoners; this gentleman's behaviour was widely different from Mr. Sadlier's; the contraſt was a very pleaſing one, for Mr. Dallas came to us in the evening, (accompanied by Lieutenant M'Alliſter, and Cornet Lennard, of the Madras cavalry) and with the moſt friendly good nature, offered us every kind of aſſiſtance in his power.

On the 13th arrived another party of priſoners, whom the Commiſſioners had collected on their march from Mangalore, when a ſecond happy meeting enſued; and, in the evening, we all joined Lieutenant Dallas, and were delivered over in charge to

Beem

Beem Row, a Brahmin, whom the Nabob had appointed to conduct the prisoners from Ooscottah to the Carnatic, it having been agreed by the treaty, that all the British prisoners should be delivered up at Vellore. We now enjoyed a greater scope of liberty than we had ever done since we were captured, being allowed to range over the whole camp; and Beem Row was so good as to take all the troops out of irons, though he had orders from the Nabob to the contrary; we also lived in perfect luxury, compared to our late mode of existing; for Mr. Dallas furnished us tents, and daily supplied us with meat and liquors, but still he found it a difficult matter to please every individual, for some gentlemen were much discontented with his behaviour, though he certainly used all his exertions to give general satisfaction. This day arrived from Bengalore, Mr. Sadlier and Colonel Brathwaite, of the Madras establishment, which latter gentleman had obtained permission from the Nabob to proceed to Madras with Mr. Sadlier, before the other prisoners; they accordingly set out for the Carnatic the next morning, leaving a

large

large quantity of the Company's liquors, and 2000 pagodas, which ſum was afterwards diſtributed, reſerving a part for the reſt of the priſoners, who were hourly expected; each officer received two pagodas, each ſailor one pagoda and a half, and each ſoldier one pagoda; the ſepoys did not receive any till ſome days after, when they each ſhared one rupee and an half: each of the officers alſo received one hat, a pair of ſhoes, four pair of ſtockings, and a ſufficient quantity of broad cloth for one coat; theſe articles having been ſent up by the government of Madras. On the 15th arrived the Madras priſoners from Seringapatam and Bengalore, who (having received frequent ſupplies of caſh from Madras, and been better treated while in confinement than the officers taken at Beddanore) had it in their power to ſupply us with ſeveral articles we ſtood much in need of, which many of them gladly did in the moſt friendly manner, ſharing their cloaths and money with us.

All the priſoners (in number about 180 officers, and 900 European ſoldiers and ſailors, and 1,600 ſepoys, beſides ſome hun-

dreds of ſervants of different occupations) were now met together, and, on recounting to each other our ſeveral misfortunes, the following intelligence was collected; viz.

"That at Beddanore the officers left wounded there, were uſed much better than at any other place, having been allowed to keep all their cloaths, doolies, cots, chairs, tables, knives, forks, &c. were beſides indulged with the free uſe of pen, ink, and paper; a certain part of the rampart, including two towers, were alſo allotted for them to range about in; their ſervants were permitted to go to the buzzars to purchaſe whatever they choſe to ſend for, but their daily allowance was only one ſeer of rice, and one pice to each; when they were recovered of their wounds (having been allowed a French ſurgeon to attend them) they were put in irons; that Enſign Manley, of the Bombay eſtabliſhment, who had been taken in a ſally at Mangalore, was ſent to Beddanore, and there confined in the ſame priſon with ſome ſepoys, upon no other allowance than a ſeer of rauggy, and one pice per day; that the officers who were ſent to

Darwaur

Darwaur (a fort near Goa) were confined with the private men, upon the ſame allowance as we were, but were afterwards removed to Simoga, where they were kept on a ſeer of rauggy and one pice; and their irons were fixed in ſuch a manner, with a ſtraight bar between their legs, that they could neither contract or expand them; that the officers confined at Seringapatam, were allowed each a golden fanam per day, with which they were at liberty to purchaſe whatever they wanted; that thoſe gentlemen who were confined at Bengalore, were daily allowed the ſame as ourſelves, but clandeſtinely received frequent ſupplies of caſh from Madras, with which they were permitted to purchaſe every article they wanted, and latterly were allowed to viſit each other in their priſons; that the private Europeans alſo received different treatment in the various parts of the country where they were impriſoned, ſome meeting with tolerable uſage, while others were treated worſe than brutes; that the ſepoys, as before-mentioned, were equally ill-uſed in every priſon; that the Nabob had circumciſed Lieutenants

Rutlidge,

Rutlidge, Speediman, and Clarke, of the Madras establiſhment, with 200 Engliſh ſoldiers and ſailors, againſt their inclinations, and had, by force, detained them all in his ſervice; and had likewiſe forcibly detained five midſhipmen of his Majeſty's navy; every man, white or black, who was known to be an artificer: moſt of the drummers and fifers, and ſeveral women and children. That the Nabob, actuated by a moſt cruel, inhuman diſpoſition, had poiſoned the following Engliſh officers; viz.

"Brigadier General Mathews, at Seringapatam; Major Rumly, Capt. Fraſer, and Lieut. Sampſon, of the Madras eſtabliſhment, at Myſore; Major Fewtrill, Captains Eames, Lendrum, Jackſon, M'Culloch, Richardſon, Gotlich, and Clift; Lieutenanants Barnwell, Young, and Olivier: Meſſrs. Stewart and Check, all of the Bombay eſtabliſhment: Capt. Campbell, of the 98th regiment, Captains Alſton and Fiſh, and Enſign Gifford, of the 100th regiment, at Coppuldroog. That the horrid murderer had alſo aſſaſſinated Lieut. Mathews, of the Bengal eſtabliſhment, (brother to General

neral Mathews) and Lieut. Wheldon, of the Bombay eſtabliſhment, at Beddanore; and had, moreover, ſent directions to murder all the Engliſh officers whom he had taken: but hearing that the Commiſſioners for negociating the treaty of peace had ſet out from Madras, he countermanded thoſe bloody orders.

"That four days before the officers were releaſed from Beddanore, all the Commandants, Subahdaurs, and Jemmidars, of the Bombay eſtabliſhment, whom the Nabob had taken priſoners, were, by his orders, removed from thence, and have never ſince been heard of; therefore, as he frequently threatned to put them to death for refuſing to enter into his ſervice, it is reaſonable to ſuppoſe he has murdered thoſe fine fellows, even after the peace was concluded."

In confirmation of this news, ſeveral of the officers, while in priſon, received letters from the three Lieutenants, and ſeveral others of thoſe unfortunate men who had been circumciſed, making them acquainted with the Nabob's villainous conduct; and the officers who were priſoners at Seringapatam, daily

ſaw theſe poor fellows come on the parade in moor-mens' dreſſes, and drilled by the enemy; from them we likewiſe learned, that the two officers murdered at Beddanore, were taken out of that fort at ten o'clock at night, carried into the Jungle, and there cut to pieces; of which the officers confined at Beddanore received the moſt certain accounts the next morning, when the cloaths of theſe unfortunate victims were brought to them for ſale. This conduct of the Nabob's, muſt naturally impreſs every Britiſh ſubject with a ſhocking idea of the man's ſavage cruelty, and excite in their breaſts ſuch a ſpirit of revenge, as it is to be hoped will not be eradicated till amply ſatisfied.

On the 17th, Lieutenant Dallas diſmounting his cavalry, and ſupplying as many of the officers as he could with horſes, we began our march from Ooſcottah (eſcorted by a ſmall guard of the Nabob's) towards Vellore, at which place we arrived on the 25th of April, 1784, where Lieut. Dallas gave Beem Row a receipt for all the priſoners the Nabob had delivered up, and we were once more at liberty to enjoy that free-

dom

dom which is the inherent privilege of every Briton.

The Government of Bombay, it is to be hoped, on our return to that ſettlement, will conſider our loſſes and ſufferings, and convince the world, that humanity has not totally forſaken the Eaſt; they will alſo, no doubt, pay the moſt particular attention to the merits of their ſepoys, by preſenting each of them with ſome diſtinguiſhing mark of military honor, for having ſhewn ſuch inſtances of courage, reſolution, and fidelity, in their gallant behaviour in the campaign under the command of Brigadier-General Mathews, and during their impriſonment, when labouring under the moſt cruel hardſhips, which will perpetuate their fame, and ſerve as an example and encouragement to the reſt of their troops, to behave in the like commendable manner, ſhould they ever be ſo unfortunate as to be caught in a ſnare of the ſame kind.

What has been advanced in favour of the ſepoys, is by no means with an intention to

depreciate the character of the European troops, whose services have been full as conspicuous; but such behaviour is expected from the natives of Britannia and Hibernia, from their well-known national character, and established reputation.

FINIS.

G L O S S A R Y.

Bahawder—A military title ſimilar to a Knight.

Bazzar—A market.

Bukſhee—A paymaſter.

Circarrs—Diſtricts.

Coſs—A diſtance nearly equal to an Engliſh league.

Divan—A council of the Nabob and his Miniſters of State.

Doolies—A kind of cots, commonly carried on the heads of four men, for the conveyance of ſick or wounded people.

Duan—A Prime Miniſter of State.

Durbar—A Nabob's place of audience.

Havildarr—A Serjeant.

Jemmidar—A Lieutenant of ſepoys; alſo the head man of a diſtrict is often called by this title.

Killadarr—Commander of a fort, from killa a fort and darr, an officer.

Lack—One hundred thouſand.

Looty, or Looties—Freebooters, or plunderers.

Nabob

GLOSSARY.

Nabob—Governor, or Prince of a country.

Naick—A corporal of ſepoys.

Paddy—The general name for rice, whilſt green, or in its dry ſtate before the huſks are beaten off.

Pagodas—Gold coin of eight ſhillings each, currency.

Pagoda—General name of a Gentoo temple.

Pettah—A ſuburb, generally adjoining to a fort, and commonly walled in.

Pice—Coin, nearly to the value of one penny each.

Peons—Irregulars, who arm themſelves after their own manner.

Polligarrs—Generally armed with match-lock guns, or pikes.

Rupee—A coin, about two ſhillings and three-pence value.

Sepoys—Black ſoldiers.

Seer—A meaſure, containing ſomewhat more than a pint.

Subah—Governor General, or Prince over other Nabobs.

Subidarr—Captain of Sepoys.

Tank

Tank—A large reſervoir of water, collected in order to water the rice fields.

Tank—Alſo a baſon of water near a Gentoo temple, for the uſe of bathing.

Topaſſes—Native black Chriſtians, the remains of the antient Portugueſe.

Tope—A Grove.

Vackeel—Ambaſſador.